

Register of Electors

It's easier online!

The easiest way for you to register to vote or update your details is online.



www.checktheregister.ie

Application for postal vote by registered voters detained in prison

If you are detained in prison and will not be able to attend your polling station to vote on polling day because of your detention, you may apply for a postal vote using this form. The form will need to be certified by the Governor of the prison or other person appointed by the Governor.

To process your application, we need to gather some personal information about you. We tell you how and why we use your personal information on page 3. Please read this information to help you fill out this form.

Please complete this form in **BLOCK CAPITALS**

1 Your details

First name

Surname

PPSN

Date of birth

Phone number

Email address

Nationality

Address

Eircode

The address at which you would be living if you weren't in prison.

2 Sign here and go to page 2 to have your form certified

I confirm that it is likely that I will not be able to go in person on polling day to vote at the polling station because I am detained in prison.

I believe that to the best of my knowledge the information I have provided:

- > is truthful, and
- > complete.

I understand that it is a legal offence under electoral law to knowingly give false or misleading information to a local authority.

Signature or mark

Date

Certification by the relevant official

This section must be completed

Note to Governor or authorised official

Prisoners who are detained in prison can apply for a postal vote in the area that they would otherwise be living in if they were not detained in prison. To qualify for a postal vote the prisoner must be unable to go to their polling station to vote on polling day because of their detention. A relevant prison official must certify that such circumstances apply to the applicant. A relevant official is one of the following: the Governor of the prison, or other person in charge of the prison, or other person authorised by the Governor to carry out registration and voting-related duties.

The relevant official is required to complete and sign the section below. Arrangements must be made by the official to send it to the relevant local authority.

Certification by relevant prison official

Name of prison

Address of prison

Eircode

Name of relevant official

Rank/title

Number of relevant official

Telephone number

Prison stamp

I, , certify that

(the applicant) is currently detained in prison pursuant to an order of court, and because of the circumstances of their detention means they will be unable to go in person on polling day to vote at their polling station.

Signature of official

Date

Information and guidance to fill in this form

This form and when you should use it

To vote you must be on the electoral register. You can check if you are registered at www.checktheregister.ie.

You can also use www.checktheregister.ie to:

- › register to vote;
- › complete your existing record with your details such as PPSN, date of birth and Eircode; or
- › make any changes to your name or address.

Use this form if you are a registered voter detained in prison and you want to vote by post as you are likely to still be in prison on polling day.

Getting your form certified

You will need to have your form certified by a relevant prison official. You must first fill in and sign page 1 of this form. This means you must:

- › provide all the information requested on Page 1 including your address and eircode of where you would be living if you were not in prison. This means you can vote for candidates in your own local constituency;
- › sign or mark and date the application form to make your application valid.

When you have completed Page 1 of the form, you should hand it to the relevant official of the prison to complete page 2. That official is required to certify that you are likely to be unable to go in person to the polling station to vote because of the circumstances of your detention in the prison. The official will arrange to have the form sent to your local authority and will include the name and address of the prison, so the ballot paper can be sent to you in prison.

Your local authority may look for proof of where you lived before you entered prison.

How your information is used

To vote you must be on the electoral register.

Your local authority needs some personal data (including your name, address, date of birth, PPSN and nationality) to process your application.

This information may be shared with other local authorities where necessary to manage and maintain the electoral register.

To protect the accuracy of the register your identity data can be cross checked with the Department of Social Protection on a limited basis to confirm identity details (name, date of birth, PPSN). While the register is a public document, your PPSN and date of birth will not be published.

This helps to ensure that:

- › only eligible people are registered to vote, and
- › the register is kept up to date, and
- › no person is on the register twice or has incorrect details.

The legal basis for this is set out in the Electoral Reform Act 2022.

Return of application form by post

When the form is completed the relevant prison official will arrange to send it to your relevant local authority.

Latest date for receipt of Application

This form can be sent to your local authority at any time. **If an election or referendum has been formally called**, the form must be received by the local authority no later than:

Electoral Event	Latest date for receipt of application by your local authority
Dáil election	Two days after the date of dissolution of the Dáil
Dáil bye-election	Two days after the polling day order is made in the case of a Dáil bye-election
Presidential, European or local election or a referendum	At least 22 days before polling day (not including Sundays, Good Friday or Public Holidays)

Forms received late cannot be considered and will have no effect for that election or referendum.