

# Electoral registration form for a British citizen living overseas

## Am I eligible to register?

If you are a British citizen living abroad, you can apply to be an overseas voter.

As long as you were registered to vote as a resident in the UK (or deemed to have been resident in the UK, for example by being registered as a service voter) within the last 15 years, you can register to vote from overseas. If you were too young to register when you left the UK, your parent or guardian must have been registered.

## Can I vote in all elections in the UK?

As an overseas voter, you are eligible to vote in elections for the UK Parliament and the European Parliament. You cannot vote in UK local or mayoral elections or elections to the Scottish Parliament, the National Assembly for Wales or the Mayor of London and London Assembly.

If you live in a country which is a member of the European Union, you can vote in that country's own local and European parliamentary elections, but you cannot vote in European elections in more than one country.

## How do I register to vote?

- 1 Fill in this electoral registration form.
- 2 Make sure you sign the declaration.
- 3 Return your completed form to your Electoral Registration Officer. You can find their address at [www.aboutmyvote.co.uk](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk).

**Register to vote as soon as you can**, or it may be too late to vote in the next election.

 **Go online**

You can fill in this form at  
[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

### Who is eligible to register to vote?

You can register to vote in the UK if you are:

- a British citizen living abroad, and
- aged 16 or over (although you won't be able to vote until you are 18).



You can fill in this form at  
[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

# Register to vote

Only one person can register to vote using this form.

Use **black ink** and write in CAPITALS.

## Your name and address

Forename(s)

Surname

Your current address outside the UK

We will only use this address to contact you about your registration.

The date you left the UK (DD MM YYYY).

Do you live at another address?

No Yes

**If you also live at another address** don't give us the address now, but we may ask you for more information later.

## Moved in the last 12 months?

No Yes

If yes, please give any previous address where you have lived during the last year.

Postcode

If this address was overseas, were you registered in the UK as an overseas voter?

No Yes

## Have you changed your name?

No Yes

If you have changed your name, and did so since you were last registered to vote in the UK, please give your full previous name.

Please also give your reason for changing your name.

If you have changed your name, but it was before you were last registered to vote in the UK, please give your most recent previous name. (optional)

For example, you may have got married and changed your name.

You do not have to give us details of your name change but it will help us identify you. If this information is not given then you may need to provide additional personal information.

### Your date of birth (DD MM YYYY)

If you don't know your date of birth, please tick if you are:

Under 18      18–75      Aged 76 and over

#### Don't know your exact date of birth?

Please give the date of birth you put on other official documents (for example, your passport or driving licence) or tick one of the boxes. Your date of birth identifies you, confirms your eligibility to vote and can be used to call people for jury service.

### Your National Insurance number

You may find this on your payslip, or on official letters about tax, pensions or benefits.

**If you cannot tell us your National Insurance number**, we may need to ask you for proof of your identity. We will contact you about this, and it may take longer to deal with your application.

### Don't know your date of birth or National Insurance number?

Please tell us why.

---

### Contact details

Telephone number(s)

Email address (if you have one) in CAPITALS

You don't have to give us your contact details, but if you do it will help us if we need to contact you about your registration.

### Your registration address

Postcode

---

Please tick ONE statement about the address above:

I was registered to vote in the UK at the address above until  
(DD MM YYYY)

I did not live at that address but was registered there as a service voter or as someone with no fixed or permanent address until  
(DD MM YYYY)

I was too young to be registered to vote when I left the UK, but my parent or guardian was registered to vote as a resident in the UK at the address above.

Please give your parent or guardian's full name.

This person is/was my  
Parent      Guardian

## Previously registered as an overseas voter?

Tick the statement that applies to you:

I was previously registered to vote as an overseas voter until  
(DD MM YYYY)

**and** I have not been registered to vote as a resident in the UK since then.

I have never been registered to vote as an overseas voter before.

I have not been registered to vote as an overseas voter since being registered to vote as a resident in the UK.

## Not previously registered as an overseas voter?

You **must** complete this section:

- if you have never been registered to vote as an overseas voter before
- or if you have not been registered to vote as an overseas voter since being registered to vote as a resident in the UK.

Please tick the **one** statement that applies to you:

I hold a British passport stating that I am a British citizen.  
British passport number

Place of issue

Date of issue (DD MM YYYY)

I do not hold a British passport stating that I am a British citizen and I was not born in the UK before 1 January 1983.

Date you became a British citizen (DD MM YYYY)

Please explain how you became a British citizen

For example, naturalisation.

Place and country of birth

I do not hold a British passport stating that I am a British citizen, but I was born in the UK before 1 January 1983.

## Too young to be registered to vote when you left the UK?

You **must** complete this section if you were too young to be registered to vote when you left the UK and you are registering as an overseas voter for the first time.

This is the first time I have applied to register as an overseas voter.  
I have enclosed a copy of my birth certificate.

Is your current name different to the name on your birth certificate?

No      Yes

If yes, please give us your previous full name.

Reason for changing name

Is your parent or guardian's name different from the name shown on your birth certificate, or has it changed since they were last registered to vote?

No      Yes

If yes, please give us their previous full name.

Reason for changing name

If you don't know why they changed their name, please write 'Unknown'.

## The open register

I don't want my name to be included in the open register.

There's more information about the open register on page 6 of this form.

## Registering anonymously?

I have also submitted an application to register anonymously.

## Can't vote in person?

You will only be able to vote in person at the polling station where you are registered to vote in the UK, if you are there on polling day. Otherwise, please choose how you would like to vote and we will send you an application form.

By post

By proxy (someone voting on your behalf)

## Declaration

I understand that this declaration cancels any previous declaration about voter registration in the UK I may have made.

I confirm that I am a British citizen and that I am not living in the UK.

To the best of my knowledge, the information in this form is true.  
I understand that the information I have given on this form will be used on the electoral register.

I understand that it is an offence to knowingly give false information in this form, and that I could face an unlimited fine and/or up to six months in prison.

**Signature**

**Date** (DD MM YYYY)

Now sign and return the form to the Electoral Registration Officer at your local council. You can find their address at [www.aboutmyvote.co.uk](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk).

## When we receive your form

- ▶ If we need more information – for example, about your parent or guardian – we will contact you.
- ▶ If you are eligible, we will send you confirmation that you are on the electoral register. If you are aged 16 or 17, we will let you know when you are on the register.

## Other information

### The open register

#### There are two registers. Why?

Using information received from the public, registration officers keep two registers – the electoral register and the open register (also known as the edited register).

#### The electoral register

The electoral register lists the names and addresses of everyone who is registered to vote in public elections. The register is used for electoral purposes, such as making sure only eligible people can vote. It is also used for other limited purposes specified in law, such as:

- detecting crime (e.g. fraud)
- calling people for jury service
- checking credit applications.

#### The open register

The open register is an extract of the electoral register, but is not used for elections. It can be bought by any person, company or organisation. For example, it is used by businesses and charities to confirm name and address details.

Your name and address will be included in the open register unless you ask for them to be removed. Removing your details from the open register does not affect your right to vote.

You can find more information about both registers and how they may be used at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote).

### Your personal information

We will only use the information you give us for electoral purposes. We will look after personal information securely and we will follow the Data Protection Act 1998. We will not give personal information about you and the other people in your household to anyone else or another organisation unless we have to by law.