

# MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

In the Municipal Elections, we choose representatives and political parties who represent us in a municipal council. Elected councillors are responsible for improving communities and delivering services to everyone living in their area. They also promulgate and oversee the implementation of by-laws.

## WHY ARE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS SO IMPORTANT?



**1.** Locally elected councillors are in a good position to understand the communities and to find out their needs.

**2.** This is our chance to choose the people and parties who we feel can develop and support our communities and provide services like electricity, water, sanitation, transport and refuse removal.

## HOW DOES LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORK?

Local government is made up of three different types of municipalities, which are run by councils.



**Metropolitan Council Municipalities (Metros)**

Metros are in cities and areas where a lot of people live. There are eight Metros: Ekurhuleni, City of Johannesburg, City of Tshwane, Nelson Mandela Bay, eThekweni, City of Cape Town, Buffalo City and Mangaung.



**Local Council Municipalities**

These are the areas outside of the eight Metros and are in smaller cities and towns.



**District Council Municipalities**

These consist of a few Local Council Municipalities that make up one district. There are usually between four to six local municipalities in a District Council.

## WHO CAN VOTE IN THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS?

### To vote in Municipal Elections you must:

1. Be a South African citizen;
2. Be 18 or older on voting day;
3. Have a green, bar-coded South African ID, a valid temporary ID certificate (TIC), or a smart identity card;
4. Be registered on the voters' roll;
5. You need to register where you live and vote where you are registered to vote.

### To check if you are registered:

- Send an SMS with your ID number to 32810 (R1 per SMS sent or received).
- Go to [www.elections.org.za](http://www.elections.org.za) or [mobi.elections.org.za](http://mobi.elections.org.za).
- Phone the Electoral Commission Contact Centre at 0800 11 8000 (only operational during the election period).
- Inspect the voters' roll at your local Electoral Commission office during office hours.



**SOUTH AFRICA**

# HOW ARE YOU REPRESENTED IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT?

## IF YOU LIVE IN THE SMALLER CITIES AND TOWNS

- The smaller cities and towns across South Africa are divided into WARDS.
- Each ward is represented on a LOCAL COUNCIL.
- Each Local Council is, in turn, represented on a DISTRICT COUNCIL.



## IF YOU LIVE IN THE BIG CITIES

- The large cities across South Africa are also divided into WARDS.
- Each ward is, in turn, represented on the METROPOLITAN COUNCIL (METRO).



# HOW DO YOU VOTE IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS?

## IF YOU LIVE IN A LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, YOU WILL HAVE THREE BALLOT PAPERS:



Yellow ballot - you vote for a political party to represent you on the Local Council.



Grey and White ballot - you vote for a person who is either from a political party or is an independent candidate to represent your ward on the Local Council.



Green Ballot - you vote for a political party to represent you on the District Council.

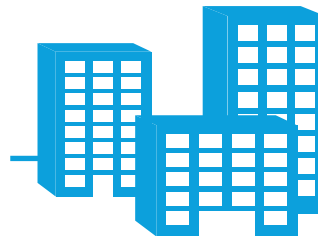
## IF YOU LIVE IN A METRO, YOU WILL HAVE TWO BALLOT PAPERS:



Yellow ballot - you vote for a political party to represent you on the Metropolitan Council.



Grey and White ballot - you vote for a person who is either from a political party or is an independent candidate to represent your ward on the Metropolitan Council.



## Contact the Electoral Commission

[www.elections.org.za](http://www.elections.org.za) | [info@elections.org.za](mailto:info@elections.org.za) | 0800 11 8000 (during elections)

WhatsApp 'Hi' to 060 088 0000 to find election information on an interactive menu.

  @IECSouthAfrica



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