

# Let's talk...

# planHELP

## Vote: Medical Exemption

### Being “exempt” from voting

Back in the day, not everyone wanted to vote. If people could find a loophole to get out of voting then they often took it!

This means that many people with disabilities have never been enrolled to vote. Automatic enrolment was often through getting your licence or a passport, so that didn't always happen.



In some cases, people had paperwork sent to the Electoral Commission saying that they were unable to understand what it meant to vote.

Now, the AEC writes election information in easy to read formats, they have technology and people to assist with voting. This means more people can vote.

### I don't know if I am “exempt”

The easiest way to find out if you are “exempt” or not is to complete and submit a form to enrol to vote. Make sure you get the right one for your state as either:

- A Voter, or
- A Voter who is unable to sign your name  
(Refer to our [InfoSheet Enrolling to Vote](#))

### Medical Certificate Re-enrolment to Vote

If you enrol to vote, and the AEC got an “exemption” some time in the past, they will send you a form for a medical certificate for your doctor to complete to say that you understand what it means to enrol and to vote.

This is the form that the AEC will send to you.

[https://www.aec.gov.au/Enrolling\\_to\\_vote/files/medical-certificate-re-enrolment.pdf](https://www.aec.gov.au/Enrolling_to_vote/files/medical-certificate-re-enrolment.pdf)

If you are going to see your doctor anyway, you can take this along.

### What does it mean to

To make sure you know about how to enrol and vote, the AEC has put together some Easy Read information here

[https://www.aec.gov.au/About\\_AEC/Publications/easy-read/](https://www.aec.gov.au/About_AEC/Publications/easy-read/)

planHELP have done our best to get this general InfoSheet right based on our understanding of the relevant information at the time. You may need to get appropriate professional advice as we don't know your personal circumstances.

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We love it when you find our InfoSheets useful and share them. Drop us a line and let us know where you are sharing the info. Please play fair – make sure people know planHELP created it, don't change our words, and share in full.

Thanks, *Caroline* and the planHELP Team