Which elections you can vote in | Electoral Commission Search You are in the Voter section Home Voter Your Which elections you can vote in location: Change England Northern Ireland Scotland Wales Overseas We're showing you content for . Select 'change' to choose a different location. On this page Eligibility Eligibility Eligibility Eligibility Citizenship Citizenship Citizenship Age Age Age Where you live Where you live Where you live Where you live Voting as a student Voting as a student Voting as a student Who can't vote Who can't vote Who can't vote Who can't vote First published: 12 September 2019 Last updated: 17 February 2023 Make sure you're registered Make sure you're registered To vote in any election in the UK, you must be registered to vote. Find out if you're eligible to register and how to apply Make sure you're registered Make sure you're registered To vote in any election in the UK, you must be registered to vote. Find out if you're eligible to register and how to apply Make sure you're registered Make sure you're registered To vote in any election in the UK, you must be registered to vote. Find out if you're eligible to register and how to apply Make sure you're registered Make sure you're registered To vote in any election in the UK, you must be registered to vote. Find out if you're eligible to register and how to apply Make sure you're registered Make sure you're registered To vote in any election in the UK, you must be registered to vote. Find out if you're eligible to register and how to apply Eligibility The elections you can vote in depend on: your citizenship your age where you live Eligibility The elections you can vote in depend on: your citizenship your age where you live Eligibility The elections you can vote in depend on: your citizenship your age where you live Eligibility The elections you can vote in depend on: your citizenship your age where you live Eligibility If you're registered as an overseas voter and you're 18 or over, you can vote in UK Parliamentary general elections. You can't vote in any other elections in the UK. If you're a service voter or Crown servant voter and are based overseas, you can vote in all elections taking place in the area where you're registered. Answer some questions to find out which elections you can vote in Citizenship British, Irish or qualifying Commonwealth citizens If you hold British, Irish or qualifying Commonwealth citizenship, you can vote in all elections that take place. EU citizens If you hold EU citizenship (other than the Republic of Ireland, Malta and Cyprus), you can vote in most elections that take place. You can't vote in UK Parliamentary general elections. Citizenship Qualifying Commonwealth citizens The definition of a 'Commonwealth' citizen includes citizens of British Crown dependencies and British overseas territories. A 'qualifying' Commonwealth citizen is someone who has leave to enter or remain in the UK, or who doesn't require that leave. Commonwealth countries Antiqua and Barbuda Australia The Bahamas Bangladesh Barbados Belize Botswana Brunei Darussalam Cameroon Canada Cyprus Dominica Fiji Islands Ghana Grenada Guyana India Jamaica Kenya Kingdom of Eswatini Kiribati Lesotho Malawi Malaysia Maldives Malta Mauritius Mozambique Namibia Nauru New Zealand Nigeria Pakistan Papua New Guinea Rwanda St Kitts & Nevis St Lucia St Vincent & The Grenadines Samoa Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Solomon Islands South Africa Sri Lanka The Gambia Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tuvalu Uganda United Republic of Tanzania Vanuatu Zambia Zimbabwe This table doesn't include the UK. Please note: Although also EU member states, citizens of Cyprus and Malta are eligible to be registered to vote in all elections held in the UK. Citizens of Fiji and Zimbabwe retain their voting rights despite the countries having been suspended from the Commonwealth. British crown dependencies Isle of Man The Channel Islands (including Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Alderney, Herm and the other inhabited Channel Islands) British overseas territories Anguilla Bermuda British

Antarctic Territory British Indian Ocean Territory British Virgin Islands Cayman Islands Falkland Islands Gibraltar Monserrat Pitcairn Island St Helena and dependencies (Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha) South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands Sovereign base areas on Cyprus Turks and Caicos Islands Hong Kong Former residents of Hong Kong who hold a British Dependent Territories, British Nationals (Overseas) or British Overseas passport qualify for registration. EU citizens An "EU citizen" is someone with citizenship of one of these EU member states. EU countries Austria Belgium Bulgaria Croatia Cyprus Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Greece Hungary Ireland Italy Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Netherlands Poland Portugal Romania Slovakia Slovenia Spain Sweden Please note: Although also EU member states, citizens of Cyprus and Malta are eligible to be registered to vote in all elections held in the UK. Citizenship British, Irish or qualifying Commonwealth citizens If you hold British, Irish or qualifying Commonwealth citizenship, you can vote in all elections that take place. EU citizens If you hold EU citizenship (other than the Republic of Ireland, Malta and Cyprus), you can vote in most elections that take place. You can't vote in UK Parliamentary general elections. Qualifying foreign citizen If you are a qualifying foreign citizen living in Wales, you can vote in Senedd and local government elections. Citizenship Qualifying Commonwealth citizens The definition of a 'Commonwealth' citizen includes citizens of British Crown dependencies and British overseas territories. A 'qualifying' Commonwealth citizen is someone who has leave to enter or remain in the UK, or who doesn't require that leave. Commonwealth countries Antiqua and Barbuda Australia The Bahamas Bangladesh Barbados Belize Botswana Brunei Darussalam Cameroon Canada Cyprus Dominica Fiji Islands Ghana Grenada Guyana India Jamaica Kenya Kingdom of Eswatini Kiribati Lesotho Malawi Malaysia Maldives Malta Mauritius Mozambique Namibia Nauru New Zealand Nigeria Pakistan Papua New Guinea Rwanda St Kitts & Nevis St Lucia St Vincent & The Grenadines Samoa Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Solomon Islands South Africa Sri Lanka The Gambia Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tuvalu Uganda United Republic of Tanzania Vanuatu Zambia Zimbabwe This table doesn't include the UK. Please note: Although also EU member states, citizens of Cyprus and Malta are eligible to be registered to vote in all elections held in the UK. Citizens of Fiji and Zimbabwe retain their voting rights despite the countries having been suspended from the Commonwealth. British crown dependencies Isle of Man The Channel Islands (including Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Alderney, Herm and the other inhabited Channel Islands) British overseas territories Anguilla Bermuda British Antarctic Territory British Indian Ocean Territory British Virgin Islands Cayman Islands Falkland Islands Gibraltar Monserrat Pitcairn Island St Helena and dependencies (Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha) South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands Sovereign base areas on Cyprus Turks and Caicos Islands Hong Kong Former residents of Hong Kong who hold a British Dependent Territories, British Nationals (Overseas) or British Overseas passport qualify for registration. EU citizens An "EU citizen" is someone with citizenship of one of these EU member states. EU countries Austria Belgium Bulgaria Croatia Cyprus Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Greece Hungary Ireland Italy Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Netherlands Poland Portugal Romania Slovakia Slovenia Spain Sweden Please note: Although also EU member states, citizens of Cyprus and Malta are eligible to be registered to vote in all elections held in the UK. Foreign citizens A qualifying foreign citizen is a citizen of another country who has permission to enter or stay in the UK, or who does not need such permission. Citizenship British, Irish or qualifying Commonwealth citizens If you hold British, Irish or qualifying

Commonwealth citizenship, you can vote in all elections that take place. Qualifying foreign nationals If you are a qualifying foreign national living in Scotland, you can vote in Scottish Parliament and council elections. A qualifying foreign national is a citizen of another country who has permission to enter or stay in the UK, or who does not need such permission. This includes EU citizens. You can't vote in UK Parliamentary elections. Citizenship Qualifying Commonwealth citizens The definition of a 'Commonwealth' citizen includes citizens of British Crown dependencies and British overseas territories. A 'qualifying' Commonwealth citizen is someone who has leave to enter or remain in the UK, or who doesn't require that leave. Commonwealth countries Antiqua and Barbuda Australia The Bahamas Bangladesh Barbados Belize Botswana Brunei Darussalam Cameroon Canada Cyprus Dominica Fiji Islands Ghana Grenada Guyana India Jamaica Kenya Kingdom of Eswatini Kiribati Lesotho Malawi Malaysia Maldives Malta Mauritius Mozambique Namibia Nauru New Zealand Nigeria Pakistan Papua New Guinea Rwanda St Kitts & Nevis St Lucia St Vincent & The Grenadines Samoa Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Solomon Islands South Africa Sri Lanka The Gambia Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tuvalu Uganda United Republic of Tanzania Vanuatu Zambia Zimbabwe This table doesn't include the UK. Please note: Although also EU member states, citizens of Cyprus and Malta are eligible to be registered to vote in all elections held in the UK. Citizens of Fiji and Zimbabwe retain their voting rights despite the countries having been suspended from the Commonwealth. British crown dependencies Isle of Man The Channel Islands (including Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Alderney, Herm and the other inhabited Channel Islands) British overseas territories Anguilla Bermuda British Antarctic Territory British Indian Ocean Territory British Virgin Islands Cayman Islands Falkland Islands Gibraltar Monserrat Pitcairn Island St Helena and dependencies (Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha) South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands Sovereign base areas on Cyprus Turks and Caicos Islands Hong Kong Former residents of Hong Kong who hold a British Dependent Territories, British Nationals (Overseas) or British Overseas passport qualify for registration. Foreign nationals A qualifying foreign national is a citizen of another country who has permission to enter or stay in the UK, or who does not need such permission. This includes EU citizens. Citizenship British, Irish or qualifying Commonwealth citizens If you hold British, Irish or qualifying Commonwealth citizenship, you can vote in all elections that take place in Northern Ireland. EU citizens If you hold EU citizenship (other than the Republic of Ireland, Malta and Cyprus), you can vote in most elections that take place in Northern Ireland. You can't vote in UK Parliamentary general elections. Citizenship Qualifying Commonwealth citizens The definition of a 'Commonwealth' citizen includes citizens of British Crown dependencies and British overseas territories. A 'qualifying' Commonwealth citizen is someone who has leave to enter or remain in the UK, or who doesn't require that leave. Commonwealth countries Antigua and Barbuda Australia The Bahamas Bangladesh Barbados Belize Botswana Brunei Darussalam Cameroon Canada Cyprus Dominica Fiji Islands Ghana Grenada Guyana India Jamaica Kenya Kingdom of Eswatini Kiribati Lesotho Malawi Malaysia Maldives Malta Mauritius Mozambique Namibia Nauru New Zealand Nigeria Pakistan Papua New Guinea Rwanda St Kitts & Nevis St Lucia St Vincent & The Grenadines Samoa Seychelles Sierra Leone Singapore Solomon Islands South Africa Sri Lanka The Gambia Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tuvalu Uganda United Republic of Tanzania Vanuatu Zambia Zimbabwe This table doesn't include the UK. Please note: Although also EU member states, citizens of Cyprus and Malta are eligible to be registered to vote in all elections held in the UK. Citizens of Fiji and Zimbabwe retain their voting rights despite the countries having been suspended from the Commonwealth. British

crown dependencies Isle of Man The Channel Islands (including Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Alderney, Herm and the other inhabited Channel Islands) British overseas territories Anguilla Bermuda British Antarctic Territory British Indian Ocean Territory British Virgin Islands Cayman Islands Falkland Islands Gibraltar Monserrat Pitcairn Island St Helena and dependencies (Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha) South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands Sovereign base areas on Cyprus Turks and Caicos Islands Hong Kong Former residents of Hong Kong who hold a British Dependent Territories, British Nationals (Overseas) or British Overseas passport qualify for registration. EU citizens An "EU citizen" is someone with citizenship of one of these EU member states. EU countries Austria Belgium Bulgaria Croatia Cyprus Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Greece Hungary Ireland Italy Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Netherlands Poland Portugal Romania Slovakia Slovenia Spain Sweden Please note: Although also EU member states, citizens of Cyprus and Malta are eligible to be registered to vote in all elections held in the UK. Age In England, you can vote in all elections when you're 18. Age In Wales, you can vote in Senedd and local government elections when you're 16. You can register to vote when you're 14. about registering You can vote in all other elections when you're 18. Age In Scotland, you can vote in: Scottish Parliament elections and council elections when you're 16 UK Parliamentary general elections when you're 18 Age In Northern Ireland, you can vote in all elections when you're 18. Where you live UK Parliamentary general elections and local council elections take place across the UK. Some elections, however, only ever take place in certain areas. If you live in London, you can vote in the Mayor of London and London Assembly elections. In some parts of England, you can also vote for your Police and Crime Commissioner, and for your Mayor. There are other registration options, including registering as a service voter, registering anonymously, and registering if you don't have a fixed address. Where you live UK Parliamentary general elections and local council elections take place across the UK. Some elections, however, only ever take place in certain areas. In Wales, you can vote in Senedd elections, and for your Police and Crime Commissioner. There are other registration options, including registering as a service voter, registering anonymously, and registering if you don't have a fixed address. Where you live UK Parliamentary general elections and local council elections take place across the UK. In Scotland, you can also vote in Scottish Parliament elections. There are other registration options, including registering as a service voter, registering anonymously, and registering if you don't have a fixed address. Where you live UK Parliamentary general elections and local council elections take place across the UK. In Northern Ireland, you can vote in Northern Ireland Assembly elections. There are other registration options, including registering as a service voter, registering anonymously, and registering if you don't have a fixed address. Voting as a student Being registered at both your home address and your term-time addresses doesn't necessarily mean you get two votes. You will need to choose one address and vote in only that area when you're voting in: UK Parliament elections UK referendums London Assembly and London Mayoral elections You can't vote at both your term-time address and your home address at these elections. Voting in more than one location is a criminal offence. For other elections you can vote at both your term-time and your home address. You can choose to vote in either or both areas (as long as the addresses are in different council areas) when you're voting in: Local council elections in England Police and Crime commissioner elections and mayoral elections Make sure you understand the rules for the election you are voting in. about voting as a student Voting as a student Being registered at both your home address and your

term-time addresses doesn't necessarily mean you get two votes. You will need to choose one address and vote in only that area when you're voting in: UK Parliament elections Senedd elections UK referendums You can't vote at both your term-time address and your home address at these elections. Voting in more than one location is a criminal offence. For other elections you can vote at both your term-time and your home address. You can choose to vote in either or both areas (as long as the addresses are in different council areas) when you're voting in: Local council elections in Wales Police and Crime commissioner elections Make sure you understand the rules for the election you are voting in. about voting as a student Voting as a student You will need to choose one address and vote in only that area when you're voting in: UK Parliament elections Northern Ireland Assembly elections UK referendums You can't vote at both your term-time address and your home address at these elections. Voting in more than one location is a criminal offence. For local council elections in Northern Ireland you can vote at both your term-time and your home address. You can choose to vote in either or both areas, as long as the addresses are in different council areas. Make sure you understand the rules for the election you are voting in. about voting as a student Voting as a student Being registered at both your home address and your term-time addresses doesn't mean you get two votes. You will need to choose one address and vote in only that area when you're voting in: UK Parliament elections Scottish Parliament elections Council elections in Scotland A referendum You can't vote at both your term-time address and your home address at these elections. Voting in more than one location is a criminal offence. The only exception is if one of your addresses is in Scotland and the other is somewhere else in the UK, and you're voting in a council election. In this case, you can vote in the council election in Scotland and in the council election in England, Wales or Northern Ireland. about voting as a student Who can't vote You will not be able to vote if you: are a convicted person detained in pursuance of your sentence, excluding contempt of court (though remand prisoners, unconvicted prisoners and civil prisoners can vote if they are on the electoral register). However, if you are normally resident in Scotland and are serving a combined sentence of 12 months or less anywhere in the UK, you are eligible to register and vote Scottish Parliament elections and council elections in Scotland have been found guilty within the previous five years of corrupt or illegal practices in connection with an election Who can't vote You will not be able to vote if you: are a convicted person detained in pursuance of your sentence, excluding contempt of court (though remand prisoners, unconvicted prisoners and civil prisoners can vote if they are on the electoral register) have been found guilty within the previous five years of corrupt or illegal practices in connection with an election Who can't vote You will not be able to vote if you: are a convicted person detained in pursuance of your sentence, excluding contempt of court (though remand prisoners, unconvicted prisoners and civil prisoners can vote if they are on the electoral register). However, if you are normally resident in Scotland and are serving a combined sentence of 12 months or less anywhere in the UK, you are eligible to register and vote in Scottish Parliament elections and council elections in Scotland have been found guilty within the previous five years of corrupt or illegal practices in connection with an election Who can't vote You will not be able to vote if you: are a convicted person detained in pursuance of your sentence, excluding contempt of court (though remand prisoners, unconvicted prisoners and civil prisoners can vote if they are on the electoral register) have been found guilty within the previous five years of corrupt or illegal practices in connection with an election Who can't vote You will not be able to vote

if you: are a convicted person detained in pursuance of your sentence, excluding contempt of court (though remand prisoners, unconvicted prisoners and civil prisoners can vote if they are on the electoral register). However, if you are normally resident in Scotland and are serving a combined sentence of 12 months or less anywhere in the UK, you are eligible to register and vote Scottish Parliament elections and council elections in Scotland have been found guilty within the previous five years of corrupt or illegal practices in connection with an election Your location: Change England Northern Ireland Scotland Wales Overseas We're showing you content for . Select 'change' to choose a different location. Related content Register to vote All you need to register to vote is 5 minutes and your National Insurance number. Elections in your area Enter your postcode to find your electoral services team at your local council. You need to send your postal and proxy vote application forms to them. Apply to vote by post Can't get to the polling station on polling day? Apply to vote by post by downloading and completing the application form. Apply to vote by proxy Can't get to the polling station on polling day? Ask a trusted person to vote on your behalf and apply for a proxy vote.