



What is the Electoral Commission?



The Electoral Commission is an independent, impartial institution established by Chapter 9 of the Constitution of South Africa to strengthen constitutional democracy. The Commission manages national, provincial and municipal elections. It makes sure these elections are trustworthy and free and fair through the participation of citizens, political parties and civil society. The Electoral Commission's vision is to be a global leader in electoral democracy.

What does the Electoral Commission do?

- The Electoral Commission manages national, provincial and municipal elections, including referendums.
- It makes sure that elections are free and fair.
- It announces the results of elections within seven days.
- It compiles and updates the national common voters' roll.

What are the functions of the Electoral Commission?

- To promote conditions to ensure free and fair elections
- To compile and update the national common voters' roll
- To compile and update the register of political parties
- To administer elections
- To promote knowledge of electoral voter processes
- To work and partner with key stakeholders
- To review the legislation that applies to elections
- To educate voters

What makes elections free and fair?

- There is clear legislation governing the election.
- All candidates and parties can campaign without intimidation and restriction.
- Every registered voter can vote, irrespective of race, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- All citizens can express their political views.
- Elections are conducted, managed and administered impartially and transparently.
- All parties accept the election results.



What is the **structure** of the Commission?

- The Electoral Commission consists of five commissioners, one of whom must be a judge. The commissioners are appointed for seven years by the President of South Africa. Their term can be renewed only once.
- The commissioners appoint a Chief Electoral Officer, who is in charge of the administration and is the accounting officer for the commission. The Chief Electoral Officer appoints employees.
- The new commission that was appointed in November 2011 will preside over all elections for the next seven years.



Mr VG Mashinini
Chairperson



Mr IT Tselane
Vice-Chairperson



Judge GM Makhanya
Commissioner



Rev. BB Finca
Commissioner



Ms JY Love
Commissioner

Where will you find the Electoral Commission?

The national office of the Electoral Commission is in Centurion, Gauteng. Provincial electoral offices are in each of the nine provinces. There are 266 local and satellite offices. The Electoral Commission employs about 900 permanent staff members, but during elections there are more than 180 000 electoral staff members. They work at about 22 500 voting stations around South Africa.

For more **information** contact the Electoral Commission

National office

Tel: 012 622 5700 Fax: 012 622 5784

SMS your ID number to 32810 to check if and where you are registered.

Contact centre

0800 11 8000 (during the election)

Provincial offices

Eastern Cape

Tel: 043 709 4200

Fax: 043 722 5331

KwaZulu-Natal

Tel: 031 279 2200

Fax: 031 279 2226

North West

Tel: 018 391 0800

Fax: 018 391 0851

Free State

Tel: 051 401 5000

Fax: 051 430 4845

Limpopo

Tel: 015 283 9100

Fax: 015 297 2506

Northern Cape

Tel: 053 838 5000

Fax: 053 831 8095

Gauteng

Tel: 011 644 7400

Fax: 011 644 7448

Mpumalanga

Tel: 013 762 0640

Fax: 013 753 2564

Western Cape

Tel: 021 910 5700

Fax: 021 910 4965

Online

iec@elections.org.za www.elections.org.za www.facebook.com/IECSouthAfrica

www.twitter.com/IECSouthAfrica www.youtube.com/IECSouthAfrica