Electoral registration form for a British or eligible Irish citizen* living overseas

You need to be on the electoral register to vote in elections and referendums. If you are a British or eligible Irish citizen* living outside the United Kingdom, you can apply to be an overseas voter provided you are of voting age and were registered to vote in Northern Ireland within the last 15 years. If you were too young to register when you left Northern Ireland your parent or guardian must have been registered.

As an overseas elector, you are eligible to vote at elections for the UK Parliament and the European Parliament. You cannot vote in local elections or elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly. This form will allow you to register as an overseas elector for one year. We will write to you before your registration expires to remind you to renew your registration.

How do I register as an overseas elector?

Fill in the registration form. You do not have to give a telephone number or email address but it is helpful in case we need to contact you about your form.

Decide how you want to vote at section 6:

- by proxy (someone you appoint to vote on your behalf)
- in person (if you are likely to be in Northern Ireland on the date of an election)

Make sure you complete and sign the declaration at section 7.

Return the completed form to the Belfast Electoral Office.

You must renew your overseas voter registration every year or you will lose your right to vote. You will receive a reminder from the Belfast Electoral Office telling you when you need to do this. If you change your address, you must inform the Belfast Electoral Office or you will not receive your reminder.

There are two versions of the register: the full and the edited version. Your details will appear on the full version of the register, but you can choose whether or not your details appear on the edited register.

The edited register. If you tick the ‘edited register’ box, your name and address will not appear on the edited register, which anyone can buy or use for any purpose. Any person, company or organisation including ‘junk-mail’ companies can buy a copy of the edited register for business activities such as marketing.

The full register lists the name and address of everyone who is registered. By law, certain public organisations and people, including politicians, can receive the full register. Anyone can look at it but it is a crime to supply or use the information for purposes other than those allowed by law. Credit reference agencies can use the full register, but only to check your name and address if you are applying for credit.

More information

You can contact us in one of the following ways:

Contact number: (United Kingdom international dialling is 44 followed by area code)

Helpline: 028 9044 6680
Email: info@eoni.org.uk
Website: www.eoni.org.uk

* An ‘eligible Irish citizen’ is someone who was born in Northern Ireland, who is an Irish citizen and also qualifies as a British citizen (whether or not they identify themselves as such)
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Please read the notes carefully before filling in this form. Please write in black ink and use BLOCK LETTERS.

When you have completed every section and signed the form personally send it to your Area Electoral Office (see notes).

1 About you
Surname
First Name
Middle Name(s)
Current full address outside the UK (this will be used for correspondence)
Address
Post Code
Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)
National Insurance No.

Tick this box if you have never had a National Insurance Number
If you don’t know you national insurance number please tell us why below (if you are not able to provide these details you may be asked to provide other documentary evidence to support your application to register)
Telephone number (in case of query)
Email address (in case of query)

2 Your last Northern Ireland registration details
Please give the full address where you were last registered to vote in Northern Ireland. (Please note you will be added to the part of register to which this address relates)
Address
Post Code
If you have changed your name since you were last registered to vote in Northern Ireland, please give your previous name and the reason for the change.
Surname
Forename
Reason for change

3 Your parent or guardian
Fill in this section if you were too young to have registered in Northern Ireland. You must enclose a copy of your birth certificate.
The person named below is/was my (tick one box):
Parent
Guardian
Full name

Only fill in this section if your parent or guardian’s name is different from the name that appears on your birth certificate or has changed since you parent or guardian was last registered to vote, please give their previous name and the reason for the change.
Previous Surname
Previous forenames
Reason for change
If you do not know the reason tick this box
I have enclosed a photocopy of my birth certificate

4 Edited Register
Anyone can buy a copy of the edited register, including companies that send junk mail. If you don’t want your details to appear on the edited register tick here. (see guidance notes).

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

WARD
DATE

Please tick one statement that applies to you.

I was last registered as an overseas elector on:

NOW GO TO SECTION 6

I was last registered as a Northern Ireland resident or service voter until:

NOW GO TO SECTION 5

I was too young to have been registered before I left Northern Ireland. My date of birth is given opposite.

NOW GO TO SECTION 3

I was last registered as an overseas elector on:
5 Citizenship

Please tick one or more of the following statements which applies to you:

☐ I am a British citizen
☐ I am an eligible Irish citizen*

Now complete one section (A, B or C) in respect of either British citizenship or eligible Irish citizenship. Note that section B does not apply to eligible Irish citizens.

SECTION A

☐ British/eligible Irish citizen* and I hold a British/Irish passport.

british/irish Passport number

Place of issue

Date of issue

SECTION B

☐ I do not hold a British Passport describing me as a ‘British citizen’ but I was born at the following place in the UK before 1 January 1983.

Place of birth

SECTION C

☐ I am a British/eligible Irish citizen* but my passport does not state that I am a British/eligible Irish* citizen.

Date of birth

Place of birth (inc. country)

Date I became a British/eligible Irish citizen*

Please explain how you became a British/eligible Irish citizen* e.g. naturalisation

6 Chose how you want to vote (tick one option)

☐ I wish to vote in person (only choose this option if you will be in Northern Ireland on the date of the election).

☐ I wish to vote by proxy (a proxy is someone you nominate to vote on your behalf). You must ask the person if they are willing and able to be your proxy. A person can only be proxy for a spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild and up to two other people at the same election.

The name and address of my proxy is:

Proxy’s full name

Proxy’s address

Post code

Proxy’s relationship to you (if any)

Declaration

I have asked the person I have named as my proxy and confirm that he/she is willing and able to be appointed to vote on my behalf.

You must sign below.

Signature

7 Applicant Declaration

This declaration cancels any previous declaration that you may have made.

I am the person named in this application and I confirm that the information I have given on this form is true. I understand that if my application is successful my personal details will be added to the full register. The full register can be viewed by any person on request. The full register can also be shared with other government departments, political parties, credit reference agencies and law enforcement. I understand that if I have been asked to complete this form, not providing the information is an offence for which I could be fined up to £1000.

If you are unable to read this declaration you should arrange for someone else to read it to you before signing below.

Please tick one statement that applies to you:

☐ I ceased to live in Northern Ireland on:

Date

OR

☐ I ceased to be a crown servant, and employee of the British Council, or a member of Her Majesty’s forces on:

Date