


# SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS: IF YOU CAN'T VOTE IN PERSON

If you're away from home or can't vote in person on Thursday 7 May you can still vote in the Scottish Parliament elections

 You can vote if you're 16 or over

## STEP 1: Register to vote



Deadline:

11:59pm on 20 April 2026

How:

[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)  
or scan here



## STEP 2: Apply for a POSTAL or PROXY\* vote

\*someone you trust to vote on your behalf



Post deadline:

5pm on 21 April 2026

How:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote)



Proxy deadline:

5pm 28 April 2026

How:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-to-vote-by-proxy-at-a-particular-election-or-referendum>



For Proxy and Postal voting, print your form and send it to your local electoral registration office, ensuring they receive it before the above deadlines. Find your local office address here:



## STEP 3: Vote!

Follow the instructions for your voting method and meet any deadlines for your vote to count.

## IN AN EMERGENCY

If you're unexpectedly not able to vote in person due to a medical emergency or other reasons, you can **apply to vote by emergency proxy until 5pm on voting day.**

Go to <https://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/voting-by-proxy>

