

Electoral Fraud and Offences

Electoral fraud refers to illegal interference with the process of an election through deliberate wrongdoing.

Electoral fraud is a crime. Do not do the following:

- Do not get someone to give false information when registering to vote.
- Do not provide false information when registering as a voter.
- Do not register to vote or vote using the name of another person (living or dead).
- Do not register to vote in a voting district in which you do not reside.
- Do not vote in an election when you are not allowed to vote.
- Do not vote in a voting station where you are not allowed to vote.
- Do not vote more than once in an election.
- Do not pretend to be one of the following:
 - an official of the Electoral Commission
 - a representative of a registered political party
 - a candidate in an election
 - an accredited (qualified) observer
 - an accredited (qualified) voter education official



It is an electoral offence to force anybody to do the following:

- To register to vote or *not* to register to vote
- To vote or *not* to vote in an election
- To support or *not* to support a political party or candidate
- To vote or *not* to vote for a political party or candidate
- To attend or *not* to attend a political event or rally of a political party
- To interfere with the fairness or independence of the Electoral Commission or any officer of the Electoral Commission (IEC)



Ensuring free and fair elections



The following behaviour is illegal. Do not:

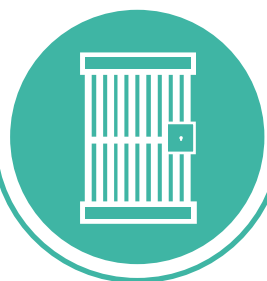
- Prevent someone from speaking to other voters;
- Prevent a political event or rally from being held when you do not have the right to do so;
- Bribe or influence an official of the IEC while they are doing their duty;
- Misinform the IEC when you are asked to provide a statement;
- Publish false information about an election that may disrupt, prevent or influence the election results;
- Publish false information that may create anger or fear and could change the election results;
- Interfere with a voter's right to secrecy when he or she is voting;
- Give information about voting or the counting of votes when you are not allowed to;
- Interfere with any voting materials;
- Make, produce or supply election materials when by law you are not allowed to;
- Remove, hide or destroy election materials when by law you are not allowed to;
- Damage or remove election posters, billboards or placards.
This is not allowed from the date that an election is proclaimed (announced) until the election results have been given out by the IEC;
- Use the voters' roll or election materials for purposes other than the election;
- Prevent the IEC from doing their duties in running the election; or
- Try to harm the honesty and dignity of the IEC.
- Do not take pictures that show who you voted for.

Illegal

What happens if you commit electoral fraud or any of the offences listed?

Electoral fraud is a crime therefore:

- You may be fined.
- You may be sent to prison for up to ten years.



About the Electoral Commission (IEC)

The Electoral Commission is an independent, impartial institution established by Chapter 9 of the Constitution. It manages national, provincial and municipal elections. It makes sure these elections are credible, free and fair.

National Office

Tel: 012 622 5700
info@elections.org.za
www.elections.org.za
Contact centre: 0800 11 8000 (during elections)

Contact Provincial Offices

Eastern Cape: 043 709 4200
Free State: 051 401 5000
Gauteng: 011 644 7400
KwaZulu-Natal: 031 279 2200
Limpopo: 015 283 9100
Mpumalanga: 013 754 0200
North West: 018 391 0800/5
Northern Cape: 053 838 5000
Western Cape: 021 910 5700

SMS your ID number to 32810 to check if and where you are registered (R1 per SMS).

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