

Royal Decree 1612/2007 of 7 December, regulating an accessible voting procedure enabling persons with a visual disability to exercise their right of suffrage.

Article 2. Scope of application.

1. The accessible voting procedure regulated by the present royal decree applies to Municipal and European Parliament elections and direct polling of the electorate, with the necessary adaptations deriving from the specificities inherent in its nature.
2. Likewise, it applies to elections to legislative assemblies of Autonomous Communities, pursuant to the first additional provision section 2 of Organic Law 5/1985, of 19 June, of the Electoral Census System, with the necessary adaptations deriving from its nature and scope. Where appropriate, references to state organisations will be regarded as made to those corresponding ones from the Autonomous administration, in the scope of its jurisdictions.

Article 3. Notification of use of the accessible voting procedure.

1. Persons with a visual impairment who know the Braille reading and writing system and are acknowledged as having a degree of disability equal to or greater than 33 percent or are affiliated with the Spanish National Organisation for the Blind, and wish to use the accessible voting procedure regulated by the present royal decree, must notify this to the Home Office, by the specific means determined by order of the Home Office.

Notwithstanding the use of other dissemination mechanisms, the Home Office will carry out an information campaign, in an accessible format, that pursuant to article 50.1 of Organic Law 5/1985, of 19 June, of the Electoral Census System, will be issued free of charge in the publicly-owned media once the electoral process has been announced.

2. Once the previous notification has been made, the visually-impaired voter will receive confirmation that it has been received, enabling him or her to collect the documentation at the Polling station. The ministerial order referred to in section 1 will specify the form of this confirmation.
3. The notification referred to in this article may be made as of the actual day of the electoral process announcement, until the twenty seventh day thereafter.
4. The Administration may at any time demand verification of the personal details of the visually-impaired voter who has expressed his or her intention to use the accessible voting procedure regulated by the present royal decree.

Article 4. Procedure and documentation for accessible voting.

1. The procedure for accessible voting for visually-impaired persons consists of using standardised ballot slips, together with specific documentation in Braille held by the Chairperson of the appropriate Polling Station where their right to suffrage is to be exercised.

2. The specific documentation available to visually-impaired persons who have indicated that they will use the procedure regulated by the present royal decree will be in the form of an envelope indicating in ink and in Braille the elections to be held and the date of voting.
3. Documentation to be included in this envelope will be as follows:
 - Explanatory instructions on using documentation, printed in Braille.
 - A standardised voting envelope.
 - An envelope per candidate standing indicating this in ink and in Braille.

Within each of these envelopes, the visually-impaired voter will find the standardised ballot slip corresponding to the candidate standing shown on the outside.

Article 6. of the documentation.

The visually-impaired voter who has expressed his or her intention to use this accessible voting procedure is to approach the Chairperson of the appropriate Polling Station for exercising his or her right to suffrage on the day of the election.

The Chairperson of the Polling Station, or where appropriate one of its members, will hand him or her the documentation that makes up the accessible voting procedure and will indicate to him or her the area of the Electoral college equipped to deal with this.