

What is the Electoral Commission?



The Electoral Commission (IEC) is an independent and impartial institution established by Chapter 9 of the Constitution of South Africa to strengthen constitutional democracy.



What does the IEC do?

- The IEC 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.



What are the functions of the IEC?

- 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 promote knowledge of electoral voter processes.
- To work and partner with key stakeholders.
- To review the legislation that applies to elections.
- To educate voters.
- To manage and administer the funding allocated to represented political parties and independents (National and Provincial Legislatures only).



What are the values of the IEC?

- The IEC upholds the following values to serve the needs of the stakeholders:
- Impartiality;
 - Accountability;
 - Transparency;
 - Integrity; and
 - Responsiveness.



What is the structure and independence of the IEC?

- The IEC operates independently from the government, but it is accountable to parliament and publicly funded.
- It is headed by a five-member Commission, one of whom must be a judge, and it has a Chief Electoral Officer who manages the day-to-day operations.
- Commissioners are appointed for a seven-year term and can only be removed from office for misconduct.
- Their term can be renewed only once.
- The Commissioners appoint a Chief Electoral Officer, who is the head of the administration and is the accounting officer for the Commission. The Chief Electoral Officer appoints employees.



Where will you find the IEC?

The IEC national office is in Tshwane, Gauteng. It also has provincial electoral offices in each of the **nine provinces**, and **approximately 250 local offices**.

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