

**20. What is plastic security seal?**

A plastic seal that has a serial number on and it is used to secure the ballot boxes. Each ballot box has on the outside, seal openings, and a ballot paper slot on-top of the lid where you drop your ballot paper through. Plastic seal is durable and has unique number that can be tracked or traced if it has suspicious to have been tampered with.

**21. Torn or wrongly marked my ballot paper; what do I do?**

Return the ballot paper and ask the presiding officer to replace the spoiled ballot paper with a new one. Proceed to the voting booth make sure be careful this time. Mark your ballot paper, fold it neatly and drop it the ballot box and leave the polling station.

**22. Special Assistance at the polling station on the polling day.**

People with disabilities, and those needing special attention will be given assistance at the polling station.

**Counting****23. Where does counting of votes occur?**

There will be one counting centre in each provincial headquarter. Counting venues must always safe and secure.

**24. Who is allowed in the counting centre?**

The following people are allowed in the counting centre

- Provincial Election Manager
- Constituency Returning Officer and their assistant
- Counting officials
- Candidates and their agents
- Anyone who is accredited by the Electoral Commission



**VOTE BLO IU.....!**  
**VOICE BLO IU.....!**  
**RIGHT BLO IU.....!**  
**FUTURE BLO IU.....!**

**Contact Details**

Solomon Islands Electoral Office  
 P.O. Box 1500  
 Vavaya Ridge,  
 Honiara  
 Solomon Islands

Phone: +677 21198

Fax: +677 21463

Email: info@siec.gov.sb



# NATIONAL GENERAL ELECTION

**Election****1. National General Elections**

Election is held to elect members of parliament each presenting the constituents of the 50 constituencies in Solomon Islands. Among the elected members a national government is formed to lead the country. It is when citizens of the country are given the opportunity to participate in the government affairs of the country by choosing their representatives.

**2. When do National General Elections held?**

National General Election is held within 4 months after the four years parliamentary term expires. The four year is calculated from the first sitting of a new parliament to its last sitting on its fourth-year.

**National By-elections** are held to fill in a vacant seat in parliament and can be held within the four years whenever there is a vacancy.

**Nomination****3. What is candidate nomination?**

The process whereby voters select someone (candidate) on behalf of their constituency to contest in an election as their representative in parliament, assembly or council.

**4. Who can stand as a candidate?**

- SI citizen
- 21 years and above
- A registered Voter

**5. How can I nominate myself as a candidate?**

Complete a candidate nomination form with Returning Officers for your constituencies. Pay your non-refundable nomination fee of \$5,000, provide proof of payment to your Returning Officer when completing your nomination application and submit in person 4pm on the closing day.

**6. Nomination period.**

- Nomination period is when intending candidates apply to become a candidate. It opens a day after the Governor General declares the election date and closes 4pm on the 14<sup>th</sup> day from the declaration date. A period of 14 days.

**7. Nomination requirements?**

- o A candidate must be nominated by 3 registered voters who must physically present in the constituency at the time of nomination.
- o The candidate must be a registered voter. He must also present in person to do his nomination so that his/her photo can be taken.
- o The candidate must pay a nomination fee of \$5,000
- o The candidate must resign from his/her job if he/she is a public servant
- o Must not involve in any work in relation to the conduct of voter registration within the last 12 months.
- o Must submit his/her nomination form before close of the nomination period

**8. What is a ballot paper draw?**

It is a draw conducted to determine the candidate's position/standing on the ballot paper? The ballot paper draw must be done within 5 days from the close of the nomination period?

**9. How does a candidate get a symbol?**

Commission has its own set of symbols that candidates choose from however it is given on first come first serve basis; it is therefore advisable that the candidates submit their nomination early so that they can get the

chance to choose their preferred symbol. For 2019 General Election, Party candidates can either choose to use their own symbol or use the party symbol however, for election after 2019 National General Election, Party Candidates must use the party symbol.

**10. Election Campaign Activity**

Election campaigning is any activity that candidate tries to persuade voters to affect the way he/she cast his/her vote at an election or influence the way a voter cast his/her vote.

It could be in the following forms

- Public gathering or promotion event
- Publishing a statement or advertisement
- Conducting public opinion
- Publishing any item that imitates a ballot paper that has picture of a candidate, symbol and anything that would promote a candidate
- Displaying name and symbol of a candidate or party
- Distribution of promotional items such as stickers, wristbands, balloon or streamers on political party colours
- Making oral presentation.

**11. Non-Campaigning Activities**

Publishing a community message and publishing news relating to election in media is not election campaigning.

**12. Election Campaign period**

Election campaign period starts from the day the Governor General declares the Election date up to 24 hours before the polling day.

**Vote****13. Who can vote?**

Any person whose name is on the final voter list used on the polling day.

**14. Polling day**

Polling day is the day that all registered voter goes to cast their vote at the polling station. Polling day falls at least 56<sup>th</sup> days from the date the Governor General

makes the declaration of the Election Date which must be within 4 months from Parliament's Dissolution date.

**15. Is the Election Day a Public Holiday?**

Yes, the Election Day is a Public Holiday to allow employees who have registered to vote, to exercise their democratic right to vote.

**16. Voting Hour**

Voting starts from 7:00 am to 5:00pm. If you're still in the queue by 5pm, you can still be allowed to vote.

**17. How do I mark the ballot paper?**

Place a mark in the box on the righthand side of the ballot paper in line with the photo, name and symbol of your preferred candidate.

**18. How do I vote.**

- Be at the polling station that your name was assigned to.
- Check your name on the voter list outside the polling station
- Join the voting que.
- Show your ID, if you lose your voter card, tell the officer your name and your village name.
- Polling Assistant will mark your name as voted
- Ink your finger
- Receive your ballot paper from the presiding officer.
- Check to make sure that your ballot paper is signed (official mark box is at the bottom of the righthand corner of the ballot paper.
- Proceed to voting booth
- Mark your ballot paper in secrecy. Fold it neatly
- Drop your ballot paper into the ballot box
- Leave the polling station.

**19. What is an indelible ink?**

It is a special ink that a voter dips his/her left little finger in to show that he/she has voted. Unlike other type of ink, it cannot easily wash off but is not harmful.