



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement
Western Cape Provincial Parliament
IPalamente yePhondo IeNtshona Koloni

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE END
OF A PARLIAMENTARY TERM?

FACT SHEET 21

REVISION 1, 9 APRIL 2019



Dissolution of Western Cape Provincial Parliament (WCPP)

- The WCPP is officially dissolved through a vote by its Members within 90 days of the date being set for the general election.
- The vote takes place after the Chief Whip tables a motion to dissolve the WCPP before or by the last scheduled sitting of the WCPP.
- No votes, sittings or parliamentary committee meetings will be scheduled during the WCPP's dissolution; however, the Premier may call an emergency sitting of the WCPP if an urgent matter arises.
- The WCPP cannot meet from the day of the general election until the commencement date of the new parliament, nor can Members conduct any parliamentary functions.

- A new parliament is officially constituted when, within 14 days of the announcement of the results of the general election, the first parliamentary sitting is held during which a judge, designated by the Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court, administers the oath of office to the newly elected Members.

What is the status of the Premier and the Cabinet after the dissolution of the WCPP?

- The Premier and the Cabinet remain in their posts and retain their privileges and responsibilities until the election of a new Premier at the first sitting of the new parliament.
- The provincial government continues to operate under the leadership of the current Premier and Cabinet until a new Premier is sworn in and a new Cabinet is appointed.

What is the status of Members after the dissolution of the WCPP?

- Members retain their positions during the dissolution of the parliament until midnight before election day.
- Members are required to vacate their offices by a set date before the general election and to return their access cards and any WCPP assets, such as library books, before they receive their final salaries.
- Returning Members are remunerated for the period between the general election and the first sitting of the new parliament.
- New Members only receive allowances and salaries from the date on which they take their oath of office.
- Departing Members receive a cash gratuity. This amount depends on the duration of their service.
- Departing Members may be eligible for a pension, depending on their age and the duration of their service.
- Departing Members can opt to retain membership of the Parmed medical aid scheme and will continue to receive a medical aid subsidy calculated according to the duration of their parliamentary service.

What is the status of political parties after the dissolution of the WCPP?

- Allowances to political parties to maintain constituency offices and to employ administrative personnel will be paid on a pro-rata basis up to midnight before election day.
- Funding for returning political parties resumes after the election results are announced and this funding is based on the total number of seats won by each political party.
- Newly elected political parties will receive allowances from the date on which their representatives are sworn in and these allowances are based on the total number of seats won.