

2017 Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) Quick Reference Guide

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) allows eligible U.S. citizens to apply to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and update their contact information with their local election office. The local election office uses the information provided on the FPCA to determine if the voter meets the State's registration requirements, which election materials to send the voter, and where and how to send the ballot.

The FPCA was redesigned in 2017, and while previous versions of the form are marked obsolete per Federal printing requirements, older forms that contain the required information will be accepted by election officials. Current forms can be found at FVAP.gov.

SECTION 1

Applicants should check the box that best describes their current situation.

Applicants should provide their full, legal name.

Check the Voting Assistance Guide to see what identification is required by the applicant's State.

SECTION 2

Applicants should provide the address where they are eligible to vote. For military voters, it is usually the last address of their State of legal residence. For overseas citizens, it is usually the last place they lived before moving overseas. They do not need to have any current ties with this address.

SECTION 3

Applicants should provide the address where they are currently located to receive voting materials.

Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request		This form is for absent Uniformed Service members, their families, and citizens residing outside the United States. It is used to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and update your contact information. See your State's instructions at FVAP.gov .
Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)		
Print clearly in blue or black ink.		
1. Who are you? Pick one.		
<input type="checkbox"/> I request an absentee ballot for all elections in which I am eligible to vote AND: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I am on active duty in the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine -OR- <input type="checkbox"/> I am an eligible spouse or dependent. <input type="checkbox"/> I am an activated National Guard member on State orders. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I intend to return. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and my return is uncertain. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I have never lived in the United States. 		
Last name	Suffix (Jr., II)	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male
First name	Previous names (if applicable)	
Middle name	Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY) / /	
Social Security Number	Driver's license or State ID #	
2. What is your address in the U.S. State or territory where you are registering to vote and requesting an absentee ballot?		
Your voting materials will not be sent to this address. See instructions on other side of form.		
Street address	Apt #	
City, town, village	State	
County	ZIP	
3. Where are you now? You must give your CURRENT address to receive your voting materials.		
Your mailing address. (Different from above)		Your mail forwarding address. (If applicable)
4. What is your contact information? This is so election officials can reach you about your request.		
Provide the country code and area code with your phone and fax number. Do not use a Defense Switched Network (DSN) number.		
Email:	Phone:	
Alternate email:	Fax:	
5. What is your voting preference? Select One.		
How do you want to receive voting materials from your election office?	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Email or online <input type="checkbox"/> Fax	What is your political party for primary elections?
6. What additional information must you provide?		
The following need more information: Alaska, Arizona, Puerto Rico, Vermont, and Virginia. (Ex. Proof of residency, employer, etc.) You may also use this space to clarify your voter information. See the Voting Assistance Guide at FVAP.gov .		
7. You must read and sign this statement.		
I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury. ■ I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and ■ I am not disqualified to vote due to having been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense, nor have I been adjudicated mentally incompetent; or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated; and ■ I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the United States, except the jurisdiction cited in this voting form. 		
Sign here X		Today's date (MM/DD/YYYY) / /

SECTION 4

Applicants should provide their contact information in case the election office has follow-up questions. Providing a personal email address will avoid security measures that might block attachments sent to .mil email addresses.

SECTION 5

Applicants should select their preferred method to receive voting materials.

Most States require applicants to specify a political party to participate in primary elections.

SECTION 6

The applicant's State may require additional information in Section 6. Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for specific State instructions.

SECTION 7

After reading the affirmation, the applicant should sign and date the form.

By signing the FPCA, applicants are verifying their information under the penalty of perjury.

2017 Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) Quick Reference Guide (cont.)

FPCA Submission Checklist:

- Look over the completed FPCA to ensure the applicant provided all the information required by their State, including a complete voting residence address (no P.O. Boxes).
- Make sure that the information provided is clear and legible.
- Check that the applicant signed and dated the application.
- Look in the Voting Assistance Guide to determine if the applicant's State allows the FPCA to be submitted by email or fax.
- If mailing the FPCA through the U.S. Postal Service (including APO/FPO) or diplomatic pouch, it can be sent postage paid using the envelope template available at FVAP.gov (https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Forms/fpca_envelope.pdf).
- If mailing the FPCA using a foreign country's postal service, it requires postage and should have "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope.

Encourage applicants to contact their local election office to confirm that their applications were successfully processed. The election office is only required to contact voters if the form is not accepted.

2017 Federal Write In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) Quick Reference Guide

The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) is a backup ballot for use by Service members, their eligible family members, and U.S. citizens residing overseas. This write-in absentee ballot can be used as a backup when the voter is living outside their voting residence, has applied for a regular State ballot through the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA, SF 76), and has not received their requested State ballot in time to vote and return it by the election deadline.

If the applicant has not previously registered to vote and requested an absentee ballot, check the Voting Assistance Guide to see if the applicant's State allows the FWAB to be used for voter registration and an absentee ballot request.

The FWAB was redesigned in 2017, and while previous versions of this form are marked obsolete per Federal printing requirements, older forms that contain the required information will be accepted by election officials. Current forms can be found at FVAP.gov.

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Applicants should provide their full, legal name.

Check the Voting Assistance Guide to see what identification is required by the applicant's State.

SECTION 2

Applicants should provide the address where they are eligible to vote. For military voters, it is usually the last address of their State of legal residence. For overseas citizens, it is usually the last place they lived before moving overseas. They do not need to have any current ties with this address.

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Applicants should provide the address where they are currently located to receive voting materials.

Voter Information		Have you already registered and requested an absentee ballot?
Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Print clearly in blue or black ink. Some States allow you to use this form to register and request ballots for future elections. Visit FVAP.gov for more details.		
1. Who are you? Pick one.		
<input type="checkbox"/> For absent Uniformed Service members, their families, and citizens residing outside the United States. <input type="checkbox"/> I am on active duty in the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine -OR- I am an eligible spouse or dependent. <input type="checkbox"/> I am an activated National Guard member on State orders. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I intend to return. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and my return is uncertain. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I have never lived in the United States.		
Last name	Suffix (Jr., II)	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male
First name	Previous names (if applicable)	
Middle name	Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY)	/ /
Social Security Number	Driver's license or State ID #	
2. What is your U.S. voting residence address?		
Your voting materials will not be sent to this address. See instructions on other side of form.		
Street address	Apt #	State
City, town, village	ZIP	
Country		
3. Where are you now? You must give your CURRENT contact information.		
Your mailing address. (Different from above)		Your mail forwarding address. (If applicable)
4. What is your contact information? This is so election officials can reach you about your request.		
Provide the country code and area code with your phone and fax number. Do not use a Defense Switched Network (DSN) number.		
Email:	Phone:	
Alternate email:	Fax:	
5. What is your voting preference for future elections?		
Do you want to register and request a ballot for all elections you are eligible to vote in? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No How do you want to receive voting materials from your election office? <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Email or online <input type="checkbox"/> Fax What is your political party for primary elections?		
6. What additional information must you provide?		
The following need more information: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Puerto Rico, Virginia, and Wisconsin. (Ex. Witness signature, etc.) You may also use this space to clarify your voter information. See the Voting Assistance Guide online at FVAP.gov .		
7. You must read and sign this statement.		
I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that: • The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury. • I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and • I am not disqualified to vote due to having been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense, nor have I been adjudicated mentally incompetent; or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated; and • I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the United States, except the jurisdiction cited in this voting form. In voting, I have marked and sealed this ballot in private and have not allowed any person to observe the marking of this ballot, except those authorized to assist voters under State and Federal law.		
Sign here X		Today's date (MM/DD/YYYY) / /
This information is for official use only. Any unauthorized release may be punishable by law. Previous editions are obsolete. Standard Form 186 (Rev.09-2017), OMB No. 0704-0202		

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