

BE HEARD WHEREVER YOU ARE

Your Guide to Absentee Voting



★

As a member of our military community, you provide an immense service to this country. And as a citizen of this very democracy, you have a say in how our nation's government can better serve you by voting in all elections.

Your vote is important and—with an absentee ballot—can be cast regardless of where you are in the world.

Using an absentee ballot is easy, but rules vary by state. There are important deadlines and resources you'll need to keep in mind during the process. That's why MOAA has provided this helpful guide to make sure your voice is heard this election. Simply follow the steps below.

1

STEP 1: REQUEST YOUR BALLOT

To complete this step, download and fill out a [Federal Post Card Application \(FPCA\)](#)¹.

Once you've completed your FPCA, return it to your local election office. Find the address on your [state voting information page](#)².



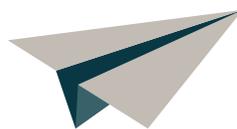
Some states allow email and fax submissions as well. You can access [online assistance](#)³ if needed to get more information on when and where to send your completed form.

Check your state voting information page for additional submission information and deadlines.

2

STEP 2: COMPLETE AND SEND IN YOUR BALLOT

After you've submitted your FPCA, you will receive your ballot no later than 45 days prior to the federal election. Once you have received



your ballot, simply complete it and return it by the appropriate deadline using the instructions provided with the ballot.

EXTERNAL LINKS:

¹ <https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Forms/fpca2013.pdf>

² <https://www.fvap.gov/military-voter/registration-ballots>

³ <https://www.fvap.gov/r3/fpca/state>

⁴ <https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Forms/fwab2013.pdf>



RECOMMENDED DATES

You can submit an absentee ballot from anywhere in the world; however, your location will determine your official deadline to submit. See below for general recommended dates to return your ballot based on your current location.

Since guidelines vary by voting jurisdiction, be sure to visit www.fvap.gov/military-voter for your official deadline to submit your ballot.

If you're...

STATESIDE:



NOVEMBER 1, 2016

OUTSIDE THE U.S.:



OCTOBER 15, 2016

AT SEA:



OCTOBER 10, 2016



INFORMATION FOR MILITARY SPOUSES

Spouses and eligible family members of servicemembers wishing to use an absentee ballot can follow the same steps outlined above to cast their vote.



CHECK YOUR BALLOT'S STATUS

Want to know the status of your ballot after you've sent it in? Visit your [state voting information page](#) to make sure your vote has been received.



DIDN'T GET YOUR BALLOT?

While you should receive your ballot by early October, if it hasn't arrived by October 8, that's okay. You can obtain a Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) [here](#)⁴ or use the [online assistant](#). Simply fill it out and send it in just like a regular absentee ballot.



WHO IS MOAA?

With the support of members hailing from every branch of the armed forces, the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the nation's leading association fighting for military officers, families, and servicemembers at large. As an advocate for the entire military community, MOAA serves to defend earned benefits and lobby for beneficial legislation.

MOAA members lend their voice to this cause and can access a suite of benefits and valuable content tailored to today's military officer. To them, MOAA has made the same promise they have made to this country: Never stop serving.



ABOUT THE FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) is a Department of Defense (DoD) organization that works to ensure servicemembers, their eligible family members, and overseas citizens are aware of their right to vote and have the tools and resources to successfully do so—from anywhere in the world. Recognizing that military and overseas voters face unique challenges when participating in elections, FVAP is committed to expanding voter awareness and reducing obstacles to voter success.

EXTERNAL LINKS:

¹ <https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Forms/fpca2013.pdf>

² <https://www.fvap.gov/military-voter/registration-ballots>

³ <https://www.fvap.gov/r3/fpca/state>

⁴ <https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Forms/fwab2013.pdf>