

WASHINGTON

Absentee Voting Guide

FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

Website: www.secstate.wa.gov/

Link to state election website is also available through FVAP website at www.fvap.gov

Presidential Primary Date: February 19, 2008

State Primary Date: August 19, 2008

General Election Date: November 4, 2008

DEADLINES FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	February 19, 2008	August 19, 2008	November 4, 2008
Ballot Request	February 19, 2008	August 19, 2008	November 4, 2008
Ballot Return**	March 5, 2008**	September 3, 2008**	November 25, 2008**

DEADLINES FOR CIVILIANS OUTSIDE THE U.S.*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	February 19, 2008	August 19, 2008	November 4, 2008
Ballot Request	February 19, 2008	August 19, 2008	November 4, 2008
Ballot Return**	March 5, 2008**	September 3, 2008**	November 25, 2008**

Note: Election dates and information are current as of March 2008. Check the state election website above, the FVAP Website at www.fvap.gov, or contact your Voting Assistance Officer for updates.

*Special conditions apply; check the following pages for details.

**Ballot return envelope must be dated no later than Election Day.

WASHINGTON

Circled letters on the form below correspond to the instructions on the following page. You must complete all shaded areas.

FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

1. I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND I AM (mark only one):

- (a) A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
- (b) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
- (c) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

2. MY INFORMATION (Required)

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle)				SUFFIX (Jr., Sr., III, etc.)		b. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable)	
c. SEX <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F		d. RACE	e. DATE OF BIRTH M M D D Y Y Y Y		f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		
h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)				i. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)			
j. EMAIL ADDRESS							

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (For military, use legal residence. For overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.) (Required)

a. NUMBER AND STREET (Cannot be a P.O. Box)				
b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE		c. COUNTY	d. STATE	e. ZIP CODE

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS

a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Where I live now) (Required)		b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS (Complete 4.b. only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4.a.)	
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c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY: MAIL FAX EMAIL

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Designate the period for which you want to receive ballots — see instructions for Block 6 paragraph (3). Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for other specific state instructions.)

7. AFFIRMATION (required)

I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

- I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
- 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 have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or 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 U.S., and
- My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
- The information on this form is true 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.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ M M D D Y Y Y Y

Signed: _____ Date: _____ M M D D Y Y Y Y

(Witness/Notary and address (if required))

SAMPLE FORM

I. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR FPCA

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is the primary form for requesting registration and/or an absentee ballot from your local election official. **Read all instructions printed below and on the FPCA before completing and signing your application.** Circled letters correspond to the circled letters on the sample form on the preceding page.

- A Block 2.f and 2.g:** Your Washington Driver's License number is requested for voter registration. If you do not have a Washington Driver's License, enter the last four digits of your Social Security number.
- B Block 2.h through 2.j:** Indicate your email address and a telephone number (including all country and local prefixes) where you can be reached.
- C Block 3.a through 3.e:** Provide the complete street address of your Washington voting residence. A post office box or rural route is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Block 6. For example: "on Highway _____, 2 miles past Highway _____, across the street from the _____ gas station." This address must be within the county or township where you claim legal voting residence.
- D Block 4.a:** Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent — usually your current mailing address. Your current mailing address must be different from the address you provided in Block 3.
- E Block 4.c:** Please check the box corresponding to the manner in which you prefer to receive your ballot. If you want to receive it by fax or email, please be sure to include your fax number or email address in Block 2.i or 2.j. See Section II.A and D or Section III.A and D.
- F Block 5:** Designation of political party affiliation is not required.
- G Block 6:** Submission of this form serves as a request to receive ballots for all Federal elections held through the next two regularly scheduled general elections. If you do not wish to receive ballots for that length of time, you may request a ballot for each election for Federal office held in the next election year OR a ballot for only the next scheduled election for Federal office by noting your choice here.
You may also use this section to include any former name or address under which you may be registered.
Refer to Section II.E or III.E for additional instructions.
- H Block 7:** You must sign and date the FPCA. When signing, you are swearing or affirming that the information is true and correct.

II. UNIFORMED SERVICES

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Washington and members of the Uniformed Services and their family members. Uniformed Services are defined as the U.S. Armed Forces, merchant marine, commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

A. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You should send an FPCA to your local election official early every year and whenever you change your mailing address except if you are requesting a special write-in ballot (see Section E and also Chapter Two).

You may also request absentee ballots by telephone, fax, email or by filling out and mailing the request form printed from the Secretary of State website. Effective January 1, 2008, a person who has a valid Washington State Driver's License or state identification card may register to vote online on the secretary of state's website at www.sectate.wa.gov. Notifying the County Auditor of any mailing address changes is required for an individual to receive absentee ballots for all future elections.

FPCAs should be received by the County Auditor by 30 days before an election to ensure there is sufficient time for the voter to receive the ballot. However, FPCAs will be accepted up through election day. If you think there will not be enough time to receive your ballot by mail, make sure to include an email address or fax number on your FPCA so that the ballot can be sent electronically if necessary.

Washington allows *UOCAVA* voters to receive absentee ballots even if they are not currently registered. If you were not registered when you sent in your FPCA, Washington **will automatically use your completed form to register you**, as long as the hardcopy is received.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Your voted ballot must arrive at the County Auditor prior to certification of the election. Certification for primary and special elections is 15 days after election day; certification for general elections is 21 days after election day. The oath accompanying your voted ballot **must be signed and dated by election day.**

Counties begin mailing *UOCAVA* ballots 30 days before the election.

If you have not received your state ballot in a timely manner, use the **Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot**. See Section F and instructions in Chapter Two.

C. Notary/Witness Requirements

No requirements for registration or voting materials to be notarized or witnessed.

D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- Washington allows you to send your FPCA ballot request by fax or email. If you would like to use the FPCA to register to vote, the fax or email must be followed up with the original form.
- Effective January 1, 2008, a person who has a valid Washington State Driver's License or state identification card may register to vote online on the secretary of state's website at www.secstate.wa.gov.
- Washington allows you to receive a blank ballot by fax or email.

If you have questions about electronic transmission of your FPCA or ballots, contact your County Auditor. Visit www.secstate.wa.gov/elections, then select County Auditors for contact information.

Please refer to Appendix B for specific instructions when transmitting election materials electronically. Use the following numbers:

DSN 223-5527
(703) 693-5527

1-800-368-8683

(from U.S., Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands only)

International toll-free fax numbers

(See inside back cover)

E. Special Write-In Absentee Ballot

Washington will provide a state special write-in absentee ballot upon request if you believe that you will be unable to vote and return a regular absentee ballot by normal mail delivery within the period provided for regular absentee ballots.

The FPCA may be used to request this state special write-in ballot. In **Block 6 of the FPCA** write: "I am unable to vote and return a regular absentee ballot by normal mail delivery within the time provided for regular absentee ballots. I request a special write-in absentee ballot." Candidate and issue information may not be available at the time of your request.

The state special write-in ballot must be requested not earlier than 90 days before the election. You may vote it by writing in the names of specific candidates.

F. Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

Washington has expanded the use of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB), SF 186. The instructions described in Chapter Two of this *Guide* remain the same, except that Washington allows eligible voters to use the FWAB to vote in any election (including state and local elections.) Washington also allows the FWAB Declaration/Affirmation to be used as an application for registration if the person is otherwise eligible to vote in Washington.

G. Ballot Application By Proxy

If you are currently registered, a member of your immediate family may request an absentee ballot for your use on your behalf. As a means of ensuring that the person who requests the absentee ballot is requesting the ballot for you, an auditor may require the person who requests the absentee ballot to identify your date of birth and deny a request that is not accompanied by this information.

H. Bars to Voting

Persons convicted of a felony must have voting rights restored prior to registering to vote. Persons judicially declared incompetent may not vote.

I. Action Upon Denial of Registration or Absentee Ballot Request

Should your voter registration application or absentee ballot request be denied, Washington shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection.

J. Transfer of Registration

If you change your residence to a different county, you must re-register. If you change your residence within the same county, you must notify the county elections department by phone or in writing. Both of these actions must be completed at least 30 days before the election to be eligible to vote in your new jurisdiction.

K. Late Registration

Qualified persons not registered anywhere in the state of Washington may register to vote in person at the office of the County Auditor or at a designated voter registration site in the county where the applicant resides. This may be done up until the fifteenth day before the election. These persons will be given an absentee ballot to vote.

III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

The following procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Washington and overseas citizens. The term "overseas citizen(s)" means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in Washington for local, state and Federal office ballots.

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You may also request absentee ballots by telephone, fax, email or by filling out and mailing the request form printed from the Secretary of State website. Effective January 1, 2008, a person who has a valid Washington State Driver's License or state identification card may register to vote online on the secretary of state's website at www.secstate.wa.gov. Notifying the

County Auditor of any mailing address changes is required for an individual to receive absentee ballots for all future elections.

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IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

Where To Send It

Mail the FPCA or other signed request to the **County Auditor** in your county of voting residence as listed below:

County	Mailing Address
Adams	Adams County Auditor 210 W. Broadway Ave., Ste 200 Ritzville, WA 99169-1897
Asotin	Asotin County Auditor PO Box 129 Asotin, WA 99402-0129
Benton	Benton County Auditor PO Box 470 Prosser, WA 99350-0470
Chelan	Chelan County Auditor PO Box 400 Wenatchee, WA 98807-0400
Clallam	Clallam County Auditor 223 E. 4th Street, Suite 1 Port Angeles, WA 98362-3000
Clark	Clark County Auditor PO Box 8815 Vancouver, WA 98666-8815
Columbia	Columbia County Auditor 341 East Main Street, Suite 2 Dayton, WA 99328-1361
Cowlitz	Cowlitz County Auditor 207 N 4th Ave, Room 107 Kelso, WA 98626-4124
Douglas	Douglas County Auditor PO Box 456 Waterville, WA 98858-0456
Ferry	Ferry County Auditor 350 E Delaware Avenue, Stop 2 Republic, WA 99166-9747
Franklin	Franklin County Auditor PO Box 1451 Pasco, WA 99301-1451
Garfield	Garfield County Auditor PO Box 278 Pomeroy, WA 99347-0278
Grant	Grant County Auditor PO Box 37 Ephrata, WA 98823-0037
Grays Harbor	Grays Harbor County Auditor 100 W Broadway, Suite 2 Montesano, WA 98563-3614
Island	Island County Auditor PO Box 5000 Coupeville, WA 98239-5000

County	Mailing Address
Jefferson	Jefferson County Auditor PO Box 563 Port Townsend, WA 98368-0563
King	King County Auditor King County Elections Division 919 SW Grady Way Renton, WA 98057-2906
Kitsap	Kitsap County Auditor 619 Division Street Port Orchard, WA 98366-4614
Kittitas	Kittitas County Auditor 205 W 5th Ave, Suite 105 Ellensburg, WA 98926-2891
Klickitat	Klickitat County Auditor 205 S. Columbus, Stop 2 Goldendale, WA 98620-9280
Lewis	Lewis County Auditor PO Box 29 Chehalis, WA 98532-0029
Lincoln	Lincoln County Auditor PO Box 28 Davenport, WA 99122-0028
Mason	Mason County Auditor PO Box 400 Shelton, WA 98584-0400
Okanogan	Okanogan County Auditor PO Box 1010 Okanogan, WA 98840-1010
Pacific	Pacific County Auditor PO Box 97 South Bend, WA 98586-0097
Pend Oreille	Pend Oreille County Auditor PO Box 5015 Newport, WA 99156-5015
Pierce	Pierce County Auditor 2401 S. 35th Street, Room 200 Tacoma, WA 98409-7484
San Juan	San Juan County Auditor PO Box 638 Friday Harbor, WA 98250-0638
Skagit	Skagit County Auditor PO Box 1306 Mt. Vernon, WA 98273-1306
Skamania	Skamania County Auditor PO Box 790 Stevenson, WA 98648-0790
Snohomish	Snohomish County Auditor 3000 Rockefeller Ave. (MS-505) Everett, WA 98201-4046
Spokane	Elections Department 1033 W Gardner Spokane, WA 99260-0020
Stevens	Stevens County Auditor 215 S Oak St, Rm 106 Colville, WA 99114-2836
Thurston	Thurston County Auditor 2000 Lakeridge Drive, SW Olympia, WA 98502-6001
Wahkiakum	Wahkiakum County Auditor PO Box 543 Cathlamet, WA 98612-0543
Walla Walla	Walla Walla County Auditor Elections Department PO Box 1856 Walla Walla, WA 99362-0356
Whatcom	Whatcom County Auditor 311 Grand Avenue, Suite 103 Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
Whitman	Whitman County Auditor PO Box 350 Colfax, WA 99111-0350
Yakima	Yakima County Auditor 128 N. Second Street, #117 Yakima, WA 98901-2639

Dare To Soar Like An Eagle. Voting Is The Greatest High

by Kim Shoemaker