

CALIFORNIA

Absentee Voting Guide

FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

Website: www.sos.ca.gov

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

Presidential Primary Date: February 5, 2008

State Primary Date: June 3, 2008

General Election Date: November 4, 2008

DEADLINES FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	January 22, 2008	May 19, 2008	October 20, 2008
Ballot Request	January 29, 2008	May 27, 2008	October 28, 2008
Ballot Return	February 5, 2008	June 3, 2008	November 4, 2008

DEADLINES FOR CIVILIANS OUTSIDE THE U.S.*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	January 22, 2008	May 19, 2008	October 20, 2008
Ballot Request	January 29, 2008	May 27, 2008	October 28, 2008
Ballot Return	February 5, 2008	June 3, 2008	November 4, 2008

Note: Election dates and information are current as of July 2007. Check the state election website above, the FVAP Website at www.fvap.gov, or contact your Voting Assistance Officer for updates.

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

CALIFORNIA

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.)	

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: _____
(Witness/Notary and address (if required)) M M D D Y Y Y Y

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:** The last four digits of your Social Security number or your California Driver's License number is required for voter registration. If you do not possess either of these identifications, the State shall assign a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes.
- B** **Block 3.a through 3.e:** Provide the complete street address of your California voting residence. A post office box is not acceptable. 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 different from the one provided in Block 4 and must be within the county where you claim legal voting residence.
- C** **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.
- D** **Block 4.c:** See Section II.D. or III.D.
- E** **Block 5:** Print the name of the political party (i.e., Democratic, Republican, American Independent, Green, Libertarian, or Peace and Freedom), write "Decline to State," or write in the name of a non-qualified political body. If you do not complete Block 5, you will be registered "Decline to State." California law allows voters who "decline to state" an affiliation with a qualified political party or who affiliate with a non-qualified political party to vote in the primary election of any qualified political party that files a notice with the Secretary of State allowing them to do so. Visit www.sos.ca.gov to learn which political parties are allowing nonaffiliated voters to participate in their primary election. If you are currently registered and want to make changes, you must submit a completed FPCA to your local elections official not later than 15 days before the election.
- F** **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.

Refer to Section II.E. or III.E. for additional instructions.

- G** **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 California 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 (see Chapter Two).

If you are an unregistered citizen, complete and sign the FPCA and return it to the county election official. It must be received not later than 15 days before the election.

If you are already registered, you may use the FPCA form or submit a letter to the county election official to request a full ballot (local, state, Federal offices). Your request must be received not later than 7 days before the election.

If you send a letter, you must provide your name as registered, voting residence address, address to which the absentee ballot should be sent, and the name and date of the election. You must sign and date the letter.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Return your voted ballot so that it arrives at the county elections office by the **close of polls (8:00 p.m.) on election day.**

Local election officials begin mailing official ballots approximately 29 days before the election.

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

C. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- California allows you to send the FPCA application for registration and absentee ballot by fax. After faxing, submit the FPCA by mail.

- California allows overseas Uniformed Services members to receive the blank ballot by fax.
- California allows overseas Uniformed Services members to return the voted ballot by fax.

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

California provides a state special absentee voter ballot if you cannot vote an absentee ballot during the normal absentee voting period because of military or other contingencies which preclude normal mail delivery. This ballot is available 60 days before the election to both registered voters and citizens eligible to vote but not yet registered.

To request this special ballot, write in **Block 6 of the FPCA** "I cannot vote an absentee ballot during the normal absentee voting period due to military or other contingencies that preclude normal mail delivery. {Specify reason(s).} I request a special absentee ballot."

The elections official will provide a list of all the candidates qualified by the 60th day before the election as well as the measures to be voted on. You vote the ballot by writing in the names of the candidates you select.

F. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons who are not U.S. citizens, are not 18 years of age, are currently imprisoned or on parole for a felony conviction or persons judged mentally incompetent, may not register or vote.

G. Cancellation of Registration

Registration is permanent only when a state Affidavit of Registration is filed with the county elections official. It can be cancelled for specified reasons.

H. Action on Registration Requests

When the FPCA is used for registration, notice of acceptance or denial is sent by the elections official.

I. Action If Registration Is Denied

Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, California shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection. Any person notified that registration has been denied should correct all deficiencies and resubmit the request. If a second denial is received, consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

J. Late Registration

(1) If a **registered** voter is unable to appear at his/her polling place because of being recalled to service after the final day for applying for an absentee voter's ballot, but before 5 p.m. on the day before the election, he/she may appear before the elections official and apply for an absentee ballot. The ballot may be voted at the official's office or elsewhere and returned before the close of the polls on election day.

(2) Discharged military personnel and civilians outside the U.S. who return to their county of residence following the close of the registration period for the upcoming election may apply in person to the elections official for permission to register and vote in the election. You must provide documentary proof that your release was after the registration closing date.

III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of California or overseas citizens. The term "overseas citizen(s)" means a United States citizen who resides outside the United States and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in California.

These procedures apply also to California residents temporarily residing outside the U.S.

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(2) Discharged military personnel and civilians outside the U.S. who return to their county of residence following the close of the registration period for the upcoming election may apply in person to the elections official for permission to register and vote in the election. You must provide documentary proof that your release was after the registration closing date.

IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

Where To Send It

Mail FPCA to the voting official in your county of voting residence as listed below.

County	Mailing Address
Alameda	Alameda Registrar of Voters 1225 Fallon Street, Room G1 Oakland, CA 94612-4229
Alpine	Alpine County Clerk, Registrar of Voters PO Box 158 Markleeville, CA 96120-0158
Amador	Amador Registrar of Voters 810 Court Street Jackson, CA 95642-2132
Butte	Butte County Clerk, Registrar of Voters 25 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965-3375
Calaveras	Calaveras County Clerk, Elections Department 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249-9709
Colusa	Colusa County Clerk-Elections Department 546 Jay Street, Ste. 300 Colusa, CA 95932-2400
Contra Costa	Contra Costa County Clerk - Elections Department PO Box 271 Martinez, CA 94553-0027
Del Norte	Del Norte County Clerk-Recorder-Elections 981 H Street Room 160 Crescent City, CA 95531-3415

County	Mailing Address
El Dorado	El Dorado Registrar of Voters 2850 Fairlane Court Placerville, CA 95667-8001
Fresno	Fresno County Clerk, Registrar of Voters 2221 Kern Street Fresno, CA 93721-2600
Glenn	Glenn County Clerk-Elections 516 W. Sycamore Street Willows, CA 95988-2746
Humboldt	Humboldt County Clerk-Elections 3033 H Street Eureka, CA 95501-4483
Imperial	Imperial County Clerk, Courthouse 940 W. Main Street, Room 202 El Centro, CA 92243-2865
Inyo	Inyo County Clerk-Elections 168 N. Edwards PO Drawer F Independence, CA 93526-0606
Kern	Kern County Clerk - Elections Office 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor Bakersfield, CA 93301-4639
Kings	Kings County Elections Dept., Govt. Center 1400 W. Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230-5997
Lake	Lake County Clerk, Registrar of Voters 255 N. Forbes Street, #209 Lakeport, CA 95453-4748
Lassen	Lassen County Clerk, Registrar of Voters 220 S. Lassen Street, Ste. 5 Susanville, CA 96130-4397
Los Angeles	Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk 12400 Imperial Highway Norwalk, CA 90650-8350
Madera	Madera County Clerk-Elections 200 W. 4th Street Madera, CA 93637-3548
Marin	Marin County Registrar of Voters 3501 Civic Center, Room 121 San Rafael, CA 94903-4183
Mariposa	Mariposa County Clerk, Registrar of Voters 4982 10th Street Mariposa, CA 95338
Mendocino	Mendocino County Clerk-Elections 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020 Ukiah, CA 95482-3738
Merced	Merced County Clerk-Elections 2222 M Street, Room 14 Merced, CA 95340-3780
Modoc	Modoc County Clerk-Elections 204 South Court Street Alturas, CA 96101-0131
Mono	Mono County Clerk-Elections Bryant Street, Library Bldg. School St. Annex 1 Bridgeport, CA 93517
Monterey	Monterey County Elections 1370 S. Main St. # B Salinas, CA 93901-2109
Napa	Napa County Clerk, Registrar of Voters 900 Coombs Street, Room 256 Napa, CA 94559-2946
Nevada	Nevada County Clerk - Elections 10433 Willow Valley Road, Suite E Nevada City, CA 95959-2367
Orange	Orange Registrar of Voters 1300 S. Grande Ave Bldg. C Santa Ana, CA 92705-4434
Placer	Placer County Registrar of Voters 2956 Richardson Dr. Auburn, CA 95603-2640
Plumas	Plumas County Clerk - Elections 520 Main Street, Room 102 Quincy, CA 95971-9366
Riverside	Riverside Registrar of Voters 2724 Gateway Drive Riverside, CA 92507-0918
Sacramento	County of Sacramento Voter Registration and Elections 7000 65th Street Sacramento, CA 95823-2315

County	Mailing Address
San Benito	San Benito County Clerk, Court House 440 Fifth Street, Room 206 Hollister, CA 95023-3843
San Bernardino	San Bernardino Registrar of Voters 777 E. Rialto Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415-0770
San Diego	San Diego Registrar of Voters 5201 Ruffin Road, #1 San Diego, CA 92123-1693
San Francisco	San Francisco Elections, City Hall - 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place Room 48 San Francisco, CA 94102-4635
San Joaquin	San Joaquin Registrar of Voters 212 N San Joaquin Street Stockton, CA 95202-2409
San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo County Clerk-Elections 1055 Monterey Street, Room D120 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-3237
San Mateo	San Mateo County Clerk - Elections 40 Tower Road San Mateo, CA 94402-4098
Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara County Clerk-Elections, Courthouse 130 E. Victoria Street, Suite 200 Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2019
Santa Clara	Santa Clara Registrar of Voters 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2 San Jose, CA 95112-2019
Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz County Clerk - Elections 701 Ocean Street, Room 210 Santa Cruz, CA 95060-4076
Shasta	Shasta County Clerk-Elections 1643 Market Street Redding, CA 96001-1022
Sierra	Sierra County Clerk-Elections Courthouse PO Drawer D, Room 11 Downieville, CA 95936-0398
Siskiyou	Siskiyou County Clerk-Elections 510 N. Main St. Yreka, CA 96097-9910
Solano	Solano Registrar of Voters 675 Texas Street, Suite 2600 Fairfield, CA 94533-5625
Sonoma	Sonoma County Clerk, Registrar of Voters 435 Fiscal Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95403-2820
Stanislaus	Stanislaus County Clerk, Registrar of Voters 1021 "I" Street, Suite 101 Modesto, CA 95354-2331
Sutter	Sutter County Clerk-Elections 1435 Veterans Memorial Circle Yuba City, CA 95993-5504
Tehama	Tehama County Clerk-Elections 444 Oak Street, Room C Red Bluff, CA 96080-0250
Trinity	County Clerk-Elections PO Box 1258 11Court St. Weaverville, CA
Tulare	County Registrar of Voters 5951 S. Mooney Blvd. Visalia, CA 93277-9394
Tuolumne	County Clerk - Elections 39 N. Washington Ste A Sonora, CA 95370-4758
Ventura	Ventura County Clerk-Elections 800 S. Victoria Avenue, L-1200 Ventura, CA 93009-1200
Yolo	Yolo County Clerk-Registration 625 Court Street, Room B 05 Woodland, CA 95695-5273
Yuba	Yuba County Clerk, Courthouse 915 8th Street, Suite 107 Marysville, CA 95901-5273