

# MONTANA

## Absentee Voting Guide

### FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

Website: [http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/Military\\_Overseas.asp](http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/Military_Overseas.asp); Email: [soselection@mt.gov](mailto:soselection@mt.gov)

Link to state election website is also available through FVAP website at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)

**Presidential Primary Date: June 3, 2008**  
**State Primary Date: June 3, 2008**  
**General Election Date: November 4, 2008**

<b>DEADLINES FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES*</b>	<b>Presidential Primary (or preference)</b>	<b>State Primary</b>	<b>General Election</b>
<b>Registration</b>	May 5, 2008	May 5, 2008	October 6, 2008
<b>Ballot Request</b>	If Registered: June 2, 2008 Not Registered: May 5, 2008	If Registered: June 2, 2008 Not Registered: May 5, 2008	If Registered: November 3, 2008 Not Registered: October 6, 2008
<b>Ballot Return</b>	June 3, 2008	June 3, 2008	November 4, 2008

<b>DEADLINES FOR CIVILIANS OUTSIDE THE U.S.*</b>	<b>Presidential Primary (or preference)</b>	<b>State Primary</b>	<b>General Election</b>
<b>Registration</b>	May 5, 2008	May 5, 2008	October 6, 2008
<b>Ballot Request</b>	If Registered: June 2, 2008 Not Registered: May 5, 2008	If Registered: June 2, 2008 Not Registered: May 5, 2008	If Registered: November 3, 2008 Not Registered: October 6, 2008
<b>Ballot Return</b>	June 3, 2008	June 3, 2008	November 4, 2008

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

State information is current as of July 2008. Check the state election website above, the FVAP Website at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov), or contact your Voting Assistance Officer for updates.

# MONTANA

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  M  F d. RACE \_\_\_\_\_ e. DATE OF BIRTH M M D D Y Y Y Y \_\_\_\_\_ f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ **A**

h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes) \_\_\_\_\_ i. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes) \_\_\_\_\_ **B**

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) \_\_\_\_\_ **C**

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.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **D**

\_\_\_\_\_

c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY:  **E** 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.)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **F**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. AFFIRMATION (required)**

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

1. 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
2. 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
3. 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
4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
5. My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
6. 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: \_\_\_\_\_ **G** 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))

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## 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 Montana Driver's License number OR, only if you do not have a Montana driver's license number, the last four digits of your Social Security 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 2.h through 2.j:** Provide an email address that you can access and/or a phone number (including all country and local prefixes) at which you can be reached for use in contacting you in a timely manner in the event that there is a question regarding your application.
- C Block 3.a through 3.e:** Provide the complete street address of your Montana voting residence. A post office box 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 different from the one provided in Block 4 and 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. It must be different from the address you provided in Block 3.
- E Block 4.c:** See Section II.D. or III.D.
- 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.
- G Block 7:** You must sign and date the FPCA. When signing, you are swearing or affirming the information is true and correct.

## II. UNIFORMED SERVICES

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Montana and members of the U.S. Armed Forces, merchant marine, and religious groups or welfare agencies assisting and officially attached to the Armed Forces, their spouses and dependents.

### 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).

**To register,** send a completed FPCA to the local County Election Administrator so that it arrives not later than 30 days before the election. If the registration application is received less than 30 days before the election, the registration application will be processed for the next election. (See also Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot, Section E below.)

**If you are already registered and only wish to request an absentee ballot,** your FPCA must be received by the County Election Administrator by noon on the day before the election.

You will receive ballots for all Federal elections held through the next two regularly scheduled general elections and ballots for state and local elections in your jurisdiction through the balance of the calendar year the request was received unless otherwise noted on the application. Be sure to provide your election official with your up-to-date mailing address.

To access the Montana Voter Information Pamphlet, link to the Montana state election website from [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

### B. Casting Your Vote

**Ballot Return Deadline:** Voted ballot must arrive by **8:00 p.m. on election day.** (See also Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot, Section E below.)

Local election officials mail absentee ballots approximately 30 days before primary elections for Federal office and approximately 45 days before general elections for Federal office. For other elections, ballots are mailed approximately 20 days before the election.

### C. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

### D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

Once your identity has been confirmed, Montana law allows counties the following options, if they have the facilities available:

- Accepting the FPCA and FWAB for registration and absentee ballot by fax or email. After faxing or emailing, you are encouraged to submit the form by mail.
- Sending you the blank ballot by fax or email.
- Accepting the voted ballot by fax or email.

The following Montana counties currently have facilities for sending and/or receiving certain election materials via fax: Beaverhead, Big Horn, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Cascade, Custer, Deer Lodge, Fallon, Fergus, Flathead, Gallatin, Garfield, Golden Valley, Hill, Jefferson, Lake, Lincoln, Madison, McCone, Mineral, Missoula, Musselshell, Park, Powder River, Powell, Prairie, Ravalli, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sanders, Sheridan, Silverbow, Stillwater, Teton, Toole and Yellowstone. Residents of other Montana counties should use the mail. Check the online *Guide* at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) for updates on counties with faxing facilities.

Check with your County Election Administrator or the Montana state election website for counties that have facilities for voting via email.

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. Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

Montana has expanded the use of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB - SF 186). The voter does not have to wait until he/she determines that the regular ballot will not be received (condition 3) to use the FWAB. The FWAB may also be used to vote in any election (primary, special, and general) and for any office (Federal, state and local). Note: Montana law requires that you enter your party preference in Block 5 of the FWAB when voting in primaries.

Montana also allows the FWAB Declaration/Affirmation to be used as an application for registration and ballot request if the person is otherwise eligible to vote in Montana. To register using the FWAB it must be sent to the local County Election Administrator so that it arrives not later than 30 days before the election.

If you are already registered the FWAB must be sent by 8:00 p.m. on election day, and received by 3 p.m. on the Monday after election day, in order to be counted. The FWAB will be counted even if the county election office did not receive a request for a regular absentee ballot from you.

If you receive the regular ballot after returning the voted FWAB, you may also vote and return the regular ballot. If

both ballots are received by 8 p.m. on election day, only the regular ballot will be counted.

For FWAB mailing instructions see page 22 of the *Guide* or visit [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

### F. Late Registration

Honorably discharged military personnel and citizens terminated from employment outside the territorial limits of the U.S. following the close of the registration period for the upcoming election are still entitled to register up to noon on the day before the election, and may alternatively use late registration procedures available to other electors.

### G. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons currently incarcerated for a felony or found to be of unsound mind, as determined by a court, may not vote.

### H. Cancellation of Registration

Registration is canceled if the voter fails to respond to certain confirmation mailings and fails to vote in two subsequent consecutive general elections for Federal office.

### I. Action on Registration Requests

Notice of registration or denial is sent.

### J. Action Upon Denial of Registration or Absentee Ballot Request

Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, Montana shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection.

### K. Action If Registration Is Denied

No provision exists for appeal of a denial of registration. If denial occurs, consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel. Montana has an administrative procedure for filing complaints about the Federal election process.

## III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

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

- Montana residents temporarily residing outside the U.S.
- overseas electors

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Musselshell, Park, Powder River, Powell, Prairie, Ravalli, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sanders, Sheridan, Silverbow, Stillwater, Teton, Toole and Yellowstone. Residents of other Montana counties should use the mail. Check the online *Guide* at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) for updates on counties with faxing facilities.

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**IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.**

**Where To Send It**

Mail the FPCA to the **County Election Administrator**, county of voting residence, as listed below:

County	Mailing Address
Beaverhead	Beaverhead County Election Administrator 2 South Pacific Street, #3 Dillon, MT 59725-2799
Big Horn	Big Horn County Election Administrator PO Box 908 Hardin, MT 59034-0908
Blaine	Blaine County Election Administrator Box 278 Chinook, MT 59523-0278
Broadwater	Broadwater County Election Administrator 515 Broadway Street Townsend, MT 59644-2397
Carbon	Carbon County Election Administrator Box 887 Red Lodge, MT 59068-0887
Carter	Carter County Election Administrator Box 315 Ekalaka, MT 59324-0315
Cascade	Cascade County Election Administrator Box 2305 Great Falls, MT 59403-2305
Chouteau	Chouteau County Election Administrator Box 459 Fort Benton, MT 59442-0459

County	Mailing Address
Custer	Custer County Election Administrator 1010 Main Miles City, MT 59301-3496
Daniels	Daniels County Election Administrator Box 247 Scobey, MT 59263-0247
Dawson	Dawson County Election Administrator 207 West Bell Glendive, MT 59330-1616
Deer Lodge	Deer Lodge County Election Administrator 800 Main Anaconda, MT 59711-2950
Fallon	Fallon County Election Administrator Box 846 Baker, MT 59313-0846
Fergus	Fergus County Election Administrator 712 West Main Lewistown, MT 59457-2562
Flathead	Flathead County Election Administrator 800 South Main Kalispell, MT 59901-5435
Gallatin	Gallatin County Election Administrator 311 W Main, Room 103 Bozeman, MT 59715-4502
Garfield	Garfield County Election Administrator Box 7 Jordan, MT 59337-0007
Glacier	Glacier County Election Administrator 512 East Main Cut Bank, MT 59427-3075
Golden Valley	Golden Valley County Election Administrator PO Box 10 Ryegate, MT 59074-0010
Granite	Granite County Election Administrator Box 925 Phillipsburg, MT 59858-0925
Hill	Hill County Election Administrator 315 4th Street Havre, MT 59501-3923
Jefferson	Jefferson County Election Administrator Box H Boulder, MT 59632-0249
Judith Basin	Judith Basin County Election Administrator Box 427 Stanford, MT 59479-0427
Lake	Lake County Election Administrator 106 4th Avenue East Polson, MT 59860-2125
Lewis and Clark	Lewis and Clark County Election Administrator 316 N. Park Ave., Rm. 168 Helena, MT 59623-0001
Liberty	Liberty County Election Administrator Box 459 Chester, MT 59522-0459
Lincoln	Lincoln County Election Administrator 512 California Libby, MT 59923-1942
Madison	Madison County Election Administrator Box 366 Virginia City, MT 59755-0366
McCone	McCone County Election Administrator Box 199 Circle, MT 59215-0199
Meagher	Meagher County Election Administrator Box 309 White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645-0309
Mineral	Mineral County Election Administrator Box 550 Superior, MT 59872-0550
Missoula	Missoula County Election Administrator 200 W Broadway Missoula, MT 59802-4216
Musselshell	Musselshell County Election Administrator 506 Main Roundup, MT 59072-2426
Park	Park County Election Administrator 414 Callendar St. Livingston, MT 59047-2746

County	Mailing Address
Petroleum	Petroleum County Election Administrator Box 226 Winnett, MT 59087-0226
Phillips	Phillips County Election Administrator Box 360 Malta, MT 59538-0360
Pondera	Pondera County Election Administrator 20 4th Avenue SW Conrad, MT 59425-2383
Powder River	Powder River County Election Administrator Box 270 Broadus, MT 59317-0270
Powell	Powell County Election Administrator 409 Missouri Deer Lodge, MT 59722-1078
Prairie	Prairie County Election Administrator Box 125 Terry, MT 59349-0125
Ravalli	Ravalli County Election Administrator 215 S 4th Street, Suite C Hamilton, MT 59840-2703
Richland	Richland County Election Administrator 201 West Main Sidney, MT 59270-4087
Roosevelt	Roosevelt County Election Administrator 400 2nd Avenue South Wolf Point, MT 59201-1600
Rosebud	Rosebud County Election Administrator Box 47 Forsyth, MT 59327-0047
Sanders	Sanders County Election Administrator Box 519 Thompson Falls, MT 59873-0519

County	Mailing Address
Sheridan	Sheridan County Election Administrator 100 W. Laurel Avenue Plentywood, MT 59254-1647
Silver Bow	Silver Bow County Election Administrator 155 W Granite, Room 208 Butte, MT 59701-9256
Stillwater	Stillwater County Election Administrator Box 149 Columbus, MT 59019-0149
Sweet Grass	Sweet Grass County Election Administrator Box 888 Big Timber, MT 59011-0888
Teton	Teton County Election Administrator Box 610 Choteau, MT 59422-0610
Toole	Toole County Election Administrator 226 1st Street South Shelby, MT 59474-1990
Treasure	Treasure County Election Administrator Box 392 Hysham, MT 59038-0392
Valley	Valley County Election Administrator 501 Court Square, Box 2 Glasgow, MT 59230-2405
Wheatland	Wheatland County Election Administrator Box 1903 Harlowton, MT 59036-1903
Wibaux	Wibaux County Election Administrator PO Box 199 Wibaux, MT 59353-0199
Yellowstone	Yellowstone County Election Administrator Box 35002 Billings, MT 59107-5002

***Red, White, and You. Vote Today!***

by Teresa G. Burgess, AFPC

