

AMERICAN SAMOA

Absentee Voting Guide

FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

Website: www.samoanet.com/asg

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

Presidential Primary Date: Not Applicable
State Primary Date: Not Applicable
General Election Date: November 4, 2008
Governor Runoff Date: November 18, 2008

DEADLINES FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	October 6, 2008
Ballot Request	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	August 20, 2008
Ballot Return	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	November 4, 2008

DEADLINES FOR CIVILIANS OUTSIDE THE U.S.*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	October 6, 2008
Ballot Request	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	August 20, 2008
Ballot Return	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	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.

AMERICAN SAMOA

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: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____

(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 Social Security number is required. If you do not have a Social Security number, your American Samoa Driver's License number is required for voter registration. If you do not possess either of these identifications, American Samoa shall assign a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes.
- B Block 3.a through 3.e:** Provide the complete address of your American Samoa voting residence. This address must be different from the one provided in Block 4 and must be within American Samoa.
- 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:** This form acts as a request for a mailed absentee ballot only. American Samoa does not allow you to receive or return the absentee ballot electronically. See Section II.D. or III.D.
- E Block 6:** If you use this form to register, you must write here:
 1. Your age
 2. Your place of current employment
 3. A statement that the residence listed in Block 3 was acquired with the intent to make American Samoa your legal residence.

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.

- F Block 7:** You must sign and date the FPCA. If using the FPCA to register, it must be signed by a notary public, commissioned officer, consular officer or other authorized person.
- G Block 7:** If you are not yet registered, a notary public, commissioned officer, consular officer, or other authorized person must complete this section.

II. UNIFORMED SERVICES

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of American Samoa 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. (Consult Section B below for ballot type eligibility).

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 below for eligibility and also Chapter Two).

You must register in person to vote a ballot for local offices.

You may register absentee to vote a ballot for Federal offices only.

If you are an unregistered citizen, the Chief Election Officer must receive your FPCA not later than 4:30 p.m., 30 days before the election.

If you are a registered citizen, the chief election officer must receive your FPCA between 75 and 15 days before the election.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Return your voted ballot so that it arrives at the Election Office by 1:30 p.m. on election day.

Local election officials mail ballots as soon as official ballots are printed and available, and if your request for absentee ballot was sent no later than 15 days before the election.

Due to its territorial status, American Samoa does not send representatives to the U.S. Senate or directly participate in the election of the President and Vice President of the U.S. At the Federal level, only a Delegate to the House of Representatives is elected.

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

FPCA: Must be sworn to by a notary public, commissioned officer, consular officer or other authorized person.

Returning a Ballot: No notary or witness required.

D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- American Samoa allows you to send the FPCA for registration and absentee ballot by fax. After faxing, submit the FPCA by mail.
- American Samoa does not allow you to receive the blank ballot by fax.
- American Samoa does not allow you 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. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons under guardianship, found incompetent, or convicted of a felony may not register or vote. Felons may vote if restored to civil rights or on good behavior for two years from the date of conviction or release from prison, whichever is later.

F. Cancellation of Registration

Registration is canceled for failure to vote in two consecutive elections.

G. Action on Registration Requests

No notice of registration is sent.

H. Action If Registration Is Denied

Persons denied registration may appeal to the board of registration. Consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel. Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, American Samoa shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection.

III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

The following procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of American Samoa 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 American Samoa.

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 below for eligibility) and also Chapter Two.

You must register in person to vote a ballot for local offices.

You may register absentee to vote a ballot for Federal offices only.

If you are an unregistered overseas citizen, the Chief Election Officer must receive your FPCA not later than 4:30 p.m., 30 days before the election.

If you are a registered overseas citizen, the Chief Election Officer must receive your FPCA between 75 and 15 days before the election.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Envelope: Return your voted ballot so that it arrives at the Election Office by **1:30 p.m. on election day**.

Local election officials mail ballots as soon as official ballots are printed and available, and if your request for absentee ballot was sent no later than 15 days before the election.

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**IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES &
CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.**
Where To Send It

Mail the FPCA to:

Chief Election Officer
American Samoa Government
P.O. Box 3970
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Duty Calls - At Home and Abroad. VOTE!

by Doreen A. Challis, Hickam AFB, HI

