

MARYLAND

Absentee Voting Guide

FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

Website: www.elections.state.md.us

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

Presidential Primary Date: February 12, 2008

State Primary Date: February 12, 2008

General Election Date: November 4, 2008

DEADLINES FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	January 22, 2008	January 22, 2008	October 14, 2008
Ballot Request	February 5, 2008	February 5, 2008	October 28, 2008
Ballot Return	February 22, 2008	February 22, 2008	November 14, 2008

DEADLINES FOR CIVILIANS OUTSIDE THE U.S.*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	January 22, 2008	January 22, 2008	October 14, 2008
Ballot Request	February 5, 2008	February 5, 2008	October 28, 2008
Ballot Return	February 22, 2008	February 22, 2008	November 14, 2008

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

State information is current as of September 2008. Check the state election website above, the FVAP Website at www.fvap.gov, or contact your Voting Assistance Officer for updates.

MARYLAND

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		g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. 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:					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MAIL		<input type="checkbox"/> FAX		<input type="checkbox"/> 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))

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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:** If you have a current, valid Maryland Driver's License or MVA identification card, enter the identification number in Item 2.g. Only if you do not have a current, valid Maryland Driver's License or MVA identification card, enter at least the last four digits of your Social Security number in Block 2.f. If you do not possess any of these forms of identifications, Maryland will assign a number that will identify you for voter registration purposes.
- B Block 3.a through 3.e:** Provide the complete street address of your Maryland voting residence. A post office box is insufficient. 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 to which this application is being mailed.
- C 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.
- D Block 4.c:** See Section II.D. or III D.
- E Block 5: Generally, you must be affiliated with a political party to vote in that party's primary elections.** If you do not list a party affiliation, you will be registered as "unaffiliated." If you are currently registered and want to change your political party affiliation, you must submit a completed FPCA, including your new political party choice or "unaffiliated," to the local Board of Elections not less than 84 days before the primary 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.
- G Block 7:** You must sign and date the FPCA. By 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 Maryland 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 Board of Elections early every year and whenever you change your mailing address (see Chapter Two). Visit the State Board of Elections' website (www.elections.state.md.us) to verify if you are registered to vote and the address at which you are registered.

To register and request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA to the local Board of Elections so that it is **postmarked** not later than the 21st day before the next election (the date on which registration closes).

If you are already registered and only wish to request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA or other written correspondence to the local Board of Elections so that it arrives not later than the Tuesday before the election. Any written correspondence must contain your signature, your name and mailing address, any Maryland residential address, telephone number and your date of birth, and request an absentee ballot.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Make sure your voted ballot is **postmarked** on or before election day. Your voted ballot must arrive at the local Board of Elections by U.S. Postal Service or a private mail carrier according to the following timetable:

- For a gubernatorial primary or Baltimore City- **on or before 10 a.m. on the second Wednesday after election day.**
- For a general or special election or for a Presidential primary - **on or before 10 a.m. on the second Friday after election day.**

Local election officials mail absentee ballots approximately 30 to 40 days before the election.

You must sign an oath stating your eligibility to vote by absentee ballot when you return a voted absentee ballot.

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

C. Notary/Witness Requirements

Registration and voting materials do not need to be notarized or witnessed.

D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- Maryland allows you to fax or email the FPCA if you are using it to request an absentee ballot. After faxing or emailing, submit the FPCA by mail. You may not fax or email the FPCA if you are using it to register to vote.
- Maryland allows you to receive the blank ballot by fax or email.
- Maryland does not allow you to return the voted ballot by fax or 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

Maryland allows Uniformed Services voters to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to vote in any election for any Federal, state or local office.

Maryland also allows the FWAB Declaration/Affirmation to be used as an application for registration if the person is otherwise eligible to vote in Maryland.

F. Application for Ballot by Proxy

Until the closing of the polls on election day, a registered voter or the voter's duly authorized agent may apply in person for an absentee ballot at the office of the local Board of Elections.

The application must be made under penalty of perjury. A qualified applicant may designate an agent to pick up and deliver the absentee ballot. The agent:

- must be at least 18 years old
- may not be a candidate on the voter's ballot
- must be designated by the voter in writing and signed under penalty of perjury
- must sign an affidavit under penalty of perjury

G. Bars to Registration and Voting

The following persons may not register or vote:

- An individual who has been convicted of a felony and is actually serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation for the conviction.
- An individual under guardianship for mental disability.
- An individual convicted of buying or selling votes.

H. Statewide Voter Registration; Removal From Voter Rolls

Maryland voter registration applies statewide. It is not necessary for a voter who is registered in one Maryland county to re-register when the voter moves to a different Maryland county. However, it is the responsibility of the voter to notify Maryland of any change of address by the deadline to register to vote before an election. If it is apparent that a person has moved out of Maryland entirely and does not qualify to vote in Maryland under *UOCAVA*, the person can be removed from the voter rolls under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 for failing to provide a current address and then failing to vote in two consecutive general elections.

I. Action on FPCA Requests

Local Boards of Elections process voter registration and absentee ballots. To register or request an absentee ballot, you should contact the board in your Maryland county of residence.

J. Action Upon Denial of Registration or Absentee Ballot Request

If a local Board of Elections denies your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, the local Board of Elections will provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection. A person denied registration may file an administrative complaint with the State Board of Elections. Consult your legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Maryland and overseas citizens as defined in the following sentence. The term "overseas citizen," for purposes of the *UOCAVA*, means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in Maryland. The term includes:

- civilian employees of the U.S. Government serving outside the U.S. and their spouses and dependents (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- members of the American Red Cross, Society of Friends, or USO serving with the Armed Forces outside the U.S. and their spouses and dependents (for local, state and Federal office ballots)

- other overseas citizens (for Federal office ballots only)

A. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You should send an FPCA to your local Board of Elections early every year and whenever you change your mailing address (see Chapter Two). Visit the State Board of Elections' website (www.elections.state.md.us) to verify if you are registered to vote and the address at which you are registered.

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Ballot Return Deadline: Make sure your voted ballot is **postmarked** on or before election day. Your voted ballot must arrive at the local Board of Elections by U.S. Postal Service or private mail carrier according to the following timetable:

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IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

Where To Send It

Mail the FPCA to the **Board of Elections** in your Maryland county of residence at the appropriate address listed below. Use the PO Box address, if available, for regular mailing

and the street address if using a private mail carrier or no PO Box address is available.

County	Mailing Address
Allegany	Allegany Board of Elections 701 Kelly Road, Suite 213 Cumberland, MD 21502-3401
Anne Arundel	Anne Arundel Board of Elections PO Box 490 Glen Burnie, MD 21060-0490 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Anne Arundel Board of Elections 7320 Ritchie Highway, Second Floor Glen Burnie, MD 21060-0490
Baltimore City	Baltimore City Board of Elections Benton Office Bldg., Room 129 417 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, MD 21202-3432
Baltimore County	Baltimore County Board of Elections 106 Bloomsbury Avenue Baltimore, MD 21228-5220
Calvert	Calvert Board of Elections PO Box 798 Prince Frederick, MD 20678-0798 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Calvert Board of Elections 30 Duke Street, Lower Level Prince Frederick, MD 20678
Caroline	Caroline Board of Elections Health & Public Services Building 403 S. 7th Street, Suite 247 Denton, MD 21629-1335
Carroll	Carroll Board of Elections 300 S.Center Street, Room 212 Westminster, MD 21157-5248
Cecil	Cecil Board of Elections 200 Chesapeake Boulevard Suite 1900 Elkton, MD 21921-6395
Charles	Charles Board of Elections PO Box 908 La Plata, MD 20646-0908 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Charles Board of Elections 201 East Charles Street La Plata, MD 20646
Dorchester	Dorchester Board of Elections PO Box 414 Cambridge, MD 21613-0414 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Dorchester Board of Elections 501 Court Lane, Room 105 Cambridge, MD 21613
Frederick	Frederick Board of Elections Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street Frederick, MD 21701-5447
Garrett	Garrett Board of Elections 2008 Maryland Highway, Suite 1 Mountain Lake Park, MD 21550-6349
Harford	Harford Board of Elections 133 Industry Lane Forest Hill, MD 21050-162
Howard	Howard Board of Elections 8900 Columbia 100 Parkway Columbia, MD 21045-2339
Kent	Kent Board of Elections 135 Dixon Drive Chestertown, MD 21620-1141

County	Mailing Address
Montgomery	Montgomery Board of Elections PO Box 10369 Rockville, MD 20849-0369 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Montgomery Board of Elections 751 Twinbrook Parkway Rockville, MD 20851-1428
Prince George's	Prince George's Board of Elections 16201 Trade Zone Avenue Suite 108 Upper Marlboro, MD 20774-8758
Queen Anne's	Queen Anne's Board of Elections PO Box 274 Centreville, MD 21617-0274 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Queen Anne's Board of Election 208 North Commerce Street Centreville, MD 21617
St Mary's	St Mary's Board of Elections PO Box 197 Leonardtown, MD 20650 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> St Mary's Board of Elections 41650 Tudor Hall Road Leonardtown, MD 20650-0197
Somerset	Somerset Board of Elections PO Box 96 Princess Anne, MD 21853-0096 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Somerset Board of Elections County Office Building 11916 Somerset Avenue Princess Anne, MD 21853
Talbot	Talbot Board of Elections PO Box 353 Easton, MD 21601-0353 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Talbot Board of Elections 142 N. Harrison Street Easton, MD 21601
Washington	Washington Board of Elections 35 W. Washington Street, Room 101 Hagerstown, MD 21740-4834
Wicomico	Wicomico Board of Elections PO Box 4091 Salisbury, MD 21803-4091 <i>Street Address for Private Mail Carrier:</i> Wicomico Board of Elections 123 Bateman Street Salisbury, MD 21804
Worcester	Worcester Board of Elections 100 Belt Street Snow Hill, MD 21804

Absent but counted - Vote!

by Mary Ann Markley, Sparks, MD

