

WEST VIRGINIA

Absentee Voting Guide

FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

Website: www.wvvotes.com

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

Presidential Primary Date: May 13, 2008

State Primary Date: May 13, 2008

General Election Date: November 4, 2008

DEADLINES FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	April 22, 2008	April 22, 2008	October 14, 2008
Ballot Request	May 7, 2008	May 7, 2008	October 29, 2008
Ballot Return*	May 16, 2008	May 16, 2008	November 10, 2008

DEADLINES FOR CIVILIANS OUTSIDE THE U.S.	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	April 22, 2008	April 22, 2008	October 14, 2008
Ballot Request	May 7, 2008	May 7, 2008	October 29, 2008
Ballot Return*	May 16, 2008	May 16, 2008	November 10, 2008

*Electronically submitted ballots are to be returned on election day before the close of polls on election day.

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

WEST VIRGINIA

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	d. RACE	e. DATE OF BIRTH	f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER	
<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F		M M D D Y Y Y Y	- -	A	

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

c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY:	D	<input type="checkbox"/> MAIL	<input type="checkbox"/> FAX	<input type="checkbox"/> EMAIL
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5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):	E
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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
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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 West Virginia Driver's License is required for voter registration. If you do not have a driver's license, the last four digits of your social security number is required. 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 West Virginia voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Block 6. For example: "2 miles up Low Gap Creek from Highway 11." 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.
- C Block 4.a:** Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent — usually your current mailing address. The address used must be out of the county of your residence (Block 3).
- D Block 4.c:** This form acts as a request for an absentee ballot by mail or by fax. West Virginia allows military and overseas absentee voters to vote an absentee ballot by fax when available and upon request of the voter. See Section II.D or III.D.
- E Block 5: If you do not list a party affiliation, you will vote a nonpartisan ballot in primary elections.** You must indicate your political party affiliation when applying for a primary ballot (Example: Democrat, Republican) or write "none" in Block 5 of the FPCA. (The Republican and Democratic Parties have opened up their primaries for unaffiliated voters and those voters not affiliated with an officially recognized party to vote. Contact a local representative for further information on primary voting in West Virginia.) Political party affiliation is not required if only requesting absentee ballots for general elections. If you are currently registered and want to change your political party affiliation or you have previously declined to indicate a political party and you now want to vote in a partisan primary election, you must submit a completed FPCA which includes your new political party affiliation to the local election official not later than 21 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
- G Block 7:** 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 West Virginia 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. Persons who are not West Virginia residents are not eligible as a result of their spouses' residence.

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 of this *Guide*).

To register to vote, send a completed FPCA to the Clerk of the County Commission so that it is received not later than the 21st day before the election.

If you are already registered to vote and only wish to request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA so that it arrives not earlier than January 1st or 84 days before the election (whichever is earlier) and not later than the sixth day before the election.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Your ballot will be counted if it is received through the mail before the start of canvassing which occurs on the Friday following a primary and 5 days after a general or special election (Sundays excepted).

The clerk mails out absentee ballots beginning 42 days before an election.

You may also use the **Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot.** See instructions in Section II.E.

C. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

Beginning in 2008, West Virginia will send blank ballots and accept voted ballots by fax from military and overseas voters. This must be arranged upon request through the county clerk. If you choose this method, a waiver that waives all privacy rights is completed by the voter and returned with the ballot. Instructions on returning each ballot is received when the ballot is forwarded to the voter by the county clerk.

- Some counties in West Virginia allow you to send the FPCA for absentee ballot by fax. If you are registering to vote, the original form must also be mailed.
- Some counties in West Virginia allow military and overseas absentee voters to receive blank ballots by fax.
- Some counties in West Virginia allow military and overseas absentee voters 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. Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

If you are outside the U.S. and have not received your state ballot in a timely manner, use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186).

West Virginia has expanded the use of the FWAB. The instructions described in chapter two of this *Guide* remain the same, except that West Virginia also allows the FWAB to be used in all Federal, state and local elections.

Use the FWAB only in accordance with the instructions described in Chapter Two and only in those elections mentioned above. Otherwise, your ballot will not be counted.

F. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons convicted of a felony, treason or election bribery and persons found of unsound mind may not vote.

G. Cancellation of Registration

If a voter does not respond to a confirmation notice, the voter is identified as inactive. If a voter does not vote or otherwise update registration after two general elections following notice, registration is canceled.

H. Action on Registration Requests

A registration receipt is sent. Incomplete applications are returned.

I. Action If Registration Is Denied

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

J. Voting By Citizens Who Have Never Lived in the U.S.

A U.S. citizen who was born abroad and who is eligible to vote and who has never lived in the U.S. may register and vote in the county where either parent would be eligible to register and vote.

III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of West Virginia 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 West Virginia. Persons who are not West Virginia residents are not eligible as a result of their spouses' residence.

- residents of West Virginia temporarily residing outside the U.S. (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- overseas electors

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IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

Where To Send It

If you are registering and/or applying for an absentee ballot, mail the FPCA to the **Clerk of the County Commission**, county of voting residence, as listed below:

County	Mailing Address
Barbour	Barbour Clerk of the County Commission 8 North Mail Street Philippi, WV 26416-1154
Berkeley	Berkeley Clerk of the County Commission 100 West King Street Martinsburg, WV 25401-3210
Boone	Boone Clerk of the County Commission 200 State Street Madison, WV 25130-1189
Braxton	Braxton Clerk of the County Commission 300 Main Street Sutton, WV 26601-1313
Brooke	Brooke Clerk of the County Commission 632 Main Street Wellsburg, WV 26070-0474
Cabell	Cabell Clerk of the County Commission 750 5th Avenue, Suite 300 Huntington, WV 25701-0545
Calhoun	Calhoun Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 230 Grantsville, WV 26147-0266
Clay	Clay Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 196 Clay, WV 25403-0129

County	Mailing Address
Doddridge	Doddridge Clerk of the County Commission 118 E. Court Street, Room 102 West Union, WV 26546-1297
Fayette	Fayette Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 569 Fayetteville, WV 25840-1517
Gilmer	Gilmer Clerk of the County Commission 10 Howard Street Glennville, WV 26351-1246
Grant	Grant Clerk of the County Commission 5 Highland Avenue Petersburg, WV 26847-1795
Greenbrier	Greenbrier Clerk of the County Commission 200 North Court Street Lewisburg, WV 24901-0751
Hampshire	Hampshire Clerk of the County Commission 66 N. High Street Romney, WV 26757-1696
Hancock	Hancock Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 367 New Cumberland, WV 26047-0428
Hardy	Hardy Clerk of the County Commission 204 Washington Street Moorefield, WV 26836-1155
Harrison	Harrison Clerk of the County Commission 301 W. Main Street Clarksburg, WV 26301-2967
Jackson	Jackson Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 800 Ripley, WV 25271-0427
Jefferson	Jefferson Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 208 Charles Town, WV 25414-1072
Kanawha	Kanawha Clerk of the County Commission 407 Virginia Street, East Charleston, WV 25301-2500
Lewis	Lewis Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 466 Weston, WV 26452-0069
Lincoln	Lincoln Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 497 Hamlin, WV 25523-1419
Logan	Logan Clerk of the County Commission 300 Stratton Street Logan, WV 25601-3939
Marion	Marion Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 1267 Fairmont, WV 26554-1269
Marshall	Marshall Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 459 Moundsville, WV 26041-2129
Mason	Mason Clerk of the County Commission 200 6th Street Point Pleasant, WV 25550-1131
McDowell	McDowell Clerk of the County Commission 90 Wyoming Street, Suite 109 Welch, WV 24801-0400
Mercer	Mercer Clerk of the County Commission 1501 West Main Street Princeton, WV 24740-2626
Mineral	Mineral Clerk of the County Commission 150 Armstrong Street Keyser, WV 267226-3597
Mingo	Mingo Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 1197 Williamson, WV 25661-0435
Monongalia	Monongalia Clerk of the County Commission 243 High Street Morgantown, WV 26505-5427

County	Mailing Address
Monroe	Monroe Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 350 Union, WV 24983-0350
Morgan	Morgan Clerk of the County Commission 83 Fairfax Street Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-1501
Nicholas	Nicholas Clerk of the County Commission 700 Main Street, Suite 2 Summersville, WV 26651-1489
Ohio	Ohio Clerk of the County Commission 1500 Chapline Street Wheeling, WV 26003-3592
Pendleton	Pendleton Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 1167 Franklin, WV 26807-0089
Pleasants	Pleasants Clerk of the County Commission 301 Court Lane St. Marys, WV 26170-1317
Pocahontas	Pocahontas Clerk of the County Commission 900-C 10th Avenue Marlinton, WV 24954-1394
Preston	Preston Clerk of the County Commission 101 W. Main Street, Room 201 Kingwood, WV 26537-1127
Putnam	Putnam Clerk of the County Commission 3389 Winfield Road Winfield, WV 25213-0358
Raleigh	Raleigh Clerk of the County Commission 215 Main Street Beckley, WV 25802-4688
Randolph	Randolph Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 368 Elkins, WV 26241-4099
Ritchie	Ritchie Clerk of the County Commission 115 E. Main Street Harrisville, WV 26362-1271
Roane	Roane Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 69 Spencer, WV 25276-0122
Summers	Summers Clerk of the County Commission 120 Ballengee Street Hinton, WV 25951-1058
Taylor	Taylor Clerk of the County Commission 214 W. Main Street Grafton, WV 26354-1387
Tucker	Tucker Clerk of the County Commission 215 First Street Parsons, WV 26287-1235
Tyler	Tyler Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 66 Middlebourne, WV 26149-0008
Upshur	Upshur Clerk of the County Commission 38 W. Main Street Buckhannon, WV 26201-2259
Wayne	Wayne Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 248 Wayne, WV 25570-0038
Webster	Webster Clerk of the County Commission 2 Court Square Webster Springs, WV 26288-1095
Wetzel	Wetzel Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 156 New Martinsville, WV 26155-0263

Vote. Freedom Isn't Free

by Enrique H. Reid

County	Mailing Address
Wirt	Wirt Clerk of the County Commission PO Box 53 Elizabeth, WV 26143-0465
Wood	Wood Clerk of the County Commission #1 Court Square Parkersburg, WV 26101-5353
Wyoming	Wyoming Clerk of the County Commission PO Drawer 309 Pineville, WV 24874-9802