# **American Samoa**

www.americansamoaelectionsoffice.org

DEADLINES	General Election November 6, 2012
Registration	October 8, 2012
Ballot Request	October 22, 2012
Ballot Return	November 6, 2012

### These are not mailing deadlines. Mail your voting materials early enough to account for mail delivery times. Check the Recommended Mailing Dates on the next page for details.

Information is current as of September 2011. Check www.fvap.gov for updates.

### Registering and Requesting Your Absentee Ballot

The Federal Post Card Application registers you to vote and requests absentee ballots for all regularly scheduled Federal elections for the calendar year in which it is submitted.

## Complete the Following Blocks of the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA):

Block 1: Select the category that describes you.

Block 3: Name (Last, First, Middle)

Block 4: Sex

Date of Birth

Your valid American Samoa Driver's License number OR your Social Security number is required for voter registration. If you do not possess either of these identification numbers, American Samoa shall assign a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes.

**Block 5:** Recommended but not required. Provide your contact information to allow your local election official to follow up if more information is required.

**Block 6:** American Samoa allows you to receive your ballot by mail, email or fax. Please rank your preference of how you would like to receive your absentee ballot. More transmission options may be available. Check www.fvap.gov for updates. **Block 7:** Complete street address of your American Samoa voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Block 6. This address must be within the county where you claim legal voting residence.

**Block 8:** Complete address where you want your ballot sent, usually where you live now.

**Block 9:** Enter your age, current place of employment, and a statement that the residence listed in Block 7 was acquired with the intent to make American Samoa your legal residence. Provide any information that may assist the local election official in accepting this application.

Affirmation: Sign and date. There is no notary requirement on elections for Federal offices.

### How and Where to Submit Your FPCA:

American Samoa allows you to submit the FPCA by mail, email or fax.

If you choose to mail your FPCA, mail the form directly to:

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

If you choose to fax or email your FPCA, you must also submit the FPCA by mail. It is recommended that you fax or email the form directly to the Chief Election Officer. Fax numbers and email addresses can be found at www.americansamoelectionoffice.org. You may also use the DoD Electronic Transmission Service to fax your FPCA toll-free. To use the Electronic Transmission Service, use the cover sheet available in Chapter 1 or at www.fvap.gov, and fax to: (703) 693-5527, DSN 223-5527, or toll-free from the U.S., Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands to 1-800-368-8683. International toll-free numbers can be found on the inside back cover or at www.fvap.gov.

#### Follow-Up on Your FPCA

To find out the status of your registration/absentee ballot request, contact the Chief Election Officer. Contact information can be found at: www.electionoffice.as.

Your jurisdiction will contact you regarding the status of your application.

## Voting Your Ballot

Local election officials mail ballots as soon as official ballots are printed and available.

## Voted ballots must be received by the Election Office by 1:30 pm on Election Day.

No witness or notary is required on voted ballots.

Voted ballots must be returned by mail regardless of how your ballot was sent.

Overseas uniformed service members and their family members with access to the Military Postal Service, may use the "Prepaid Expedited Mail- Label 11-DOD". This label is available at APO/FPO locations and can only be used for the general election. It provides expedited mail service up to seven days prior to the election. You can return your ballot with this label attached at any MPO/FPO, American embassy or consulate. A portion of the label is retained by you for tracking your ballot through the U.S. Postal Service.

#### **Tracking Your Ballot**

You may track the status of your ballot at: http:// www.americansamoaelectionoffice.org/ Online%20Status%20Lookup/ASG%20El.

### Recommended Mailing Dates for the November 2012 General Election

Send your FPCA by August 15, 2012 to ensure that you receive your ballot in time to vote and return it to be counted.

- Voters in Iraq, Afghanistan, ships at sea, and other overseas locations without access to the military postal system should send voted ballots by October 6, 2012
- Voters in other overseas military installations should send voted ballots by October 13, 2012
- Stateside Uniformed Service members and their families should send voted ballots by October 29, 2012.

If you do not receive your State absentee ballot by October 2, 2012, use the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot. If you receive your State absentee ballot, vote and return it. If both ballots are received by the deadline, only the State ballot will be counted.

### Haven't Received Your Ballot? Don't Wait Until It's Too Late... Use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot!

American Samoa allows you to use Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for voting in general elections for Federal office. If you are registered and have requested your absentee ballot, feel free to use the FWAB to vote anytime before an election.

## Complete the Following Blocks of the FWAB's Voter Declaration/Affirmation:

**Block 1:** American Samoa does not allow you to use this form for registration. Do not check the registration block.

Block 2: Select the category that describes you.

Block 3: Name (Last, First, Middle)

Block 4: Sex

Date of Birth

Enter your valid American Samoa Driver's License number, your Social Security number, OR your voter registration number.

**Block 5:** Recommended but not required. Provide your contact information to allow your local election official to follow up if more information is required.

**Block 7:** Complete street address of your American Samoa voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Block 9. This address must be within the county where you claim legal voting residence.

Block 8: Enter your current mailing address.

**Block 9:** Provide any information that may assist the local election official in accepting this ballot or application.

Affirmation: Sign and date. No witness or notary required.

#### Vote Your FWAB:

Vote for any Federal office in a general election. To find out the races and candidates for which you can vote, go to www.americansamoaelectionoffice.org. For each office for which you vote, write in either a candidate's name or a political party designation. 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.

Once the ballot is complete, fold and place it in the security envelope and seal. Place only the voted ballot in the security envelope and do not write on the security envelope.

### How and Where to Submit Your FWAB:

The deadlines for submitting the FWAB are the same as for regular absentee ballots. If you receive the regular ballot after submitting the voted FWAB, you may also vote and return the regular ballot. If both ballots are received by the deadline, only the regular ballot will be counted.

Insert the sealed security envelope and the Voter's Declaration/Affirmation into the mailing envelope and mail your FWAB directly to:

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