

# Delaware

[http://electionsncc.delaware.gov/absentee\\_de](http://electionsncc.delaware.gov/absentee_de)

DEADLINES	Presidential Primary April 24, 2012	State Primary September 11, 2012	General Election November 6, 2012
Registration	April 9, 2012	August 27, 2012	October 22, 2012
Ballot Request	April 20, 2012	September 7, 2012	November 2, 2012
Ballot Return	April 24, 2012	September 11, 2012	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 November 2011. Check [www.fvap.gov](http://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 Federal elections held through the next regularly scheduled general election.

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

**Block 1:** Select the category that describes you.

**Block 2:** To vote in primary elections, you must enter your political party affiliation. If you want to change your political party affiliation, submit a completed FPCA indicating your new party preference to the local election official. There are two periods during which you may not change your political party affiliation: from 59 days before the Presidential Primary through the day of the Presidential primary, and from the last Saturday in May in the year of the general election through the day of the primary election. Political party affiliation is not required if only requesting absentee ballots for general elections.

**Block 3:** Name (Last, First, Middle)

**Block 4:** Date of Birth

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

**Blocks 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:** Delaware allows you to receive the blank ballot by mail, email or fax. Check how you would like to receive your absentee ballot. Provide your email address or fax number in Block 5. If you do not make a selection, then your local election official will mail your ballot to you.

**Block 7:** Complete street address of your Delaware 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:** Complete address where you want your ballot sent, usually where you live now.

**Block 9:** In addition to mailing a regular ballot, Delaware provides a Special Write-In Absentee Ballot up to 90 days before the general election to any voter unable to vote in the regular absentee voting process due to the requirements of military service or other contingencies. This ballot allows you to vote for local, State and Federal offices. To request it, write in Block 9: "I am unable to vote by regular absentee ballot or in person due to requirements of military service. I request a special write-in ballot."

Provide any information that may assist the local election official in accepting this application.

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

### How and Where to Submit Your FPCA:

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

If you choose to mail your FPCA, mail the form directly to your local election office. Addresses can be found at the end of this section.

If you choose to email your FPCA, send the form as a signed, scanned attachment. Email directly to your local election office. Email addresses can be found at <http://elections.delaware.gov/locations.shtml>.

If you choose to fax your FPCA, it is recommended that you fax the form directly to your local election official. Fax numbers can be found at <http://elections.delaware.gov/locations.shtml>. 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](http://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](http://www.fvap.gov).

### Follow-Up on Your FPCA

To find out the status of your registration/absentee ballot request, contact your local election office by phone, email, or fax or refer to Delaware's voter registration verification website at: <http://pollingplace.delaware.gov/>. You can check the status of your ballot request during an election year at: <http://absenteestatus.elections.delaware.gov>.

Your jurisdiction will contact you if your application is denied.

### Late Registration

Uniformed Service members, their families, and overseas citizens who return to the U.S. within 60 days of an election and establish residence in Delaware can register to vote after the registration deadline. Contact your local election office for more information.

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

A U.S. citizen who was born abroad and has never lived in the U.S. may register and vote in the Delaware county where a parent would be eligible to register and vote (for Federal offices only).

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## Voting Your Ballot

Local election officials send ballots approximately 45 days before primary and general elections.

**Voted ballots must be received by your local election office no later than 8 pm on Election Day.**

You may return the voted ballot by mail, email, or fax in accordance with the instructions sent with the ballot. No witness or notary is required on voted ballots.

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://absenteestatus.elections.delaware.gov>.

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## 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.

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

Delaware allows you to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for registration and voting in primary, special, and general elections for Federal, State, and local offices and non-candidate ballot issues. 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:** Delaware allows you to use this form for registration.

**Block 2:** Select the category that describes you.

**Block 3:** Name (Last, First, Middle)

**Block 4:** Date of Birth

Enter your valid Delaware Driver's License number, your complete Social Security number, OR your State voter registration number.

**Blocks 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:** If you are using this form to register and wish to vote in primary elections, you must enter your political party affiliation. If you want to change your political party affiliation, submit a completed Federal Post Card Application indicating your new party preference to the local election official. There are two periods during which you may not change your political party affiliation: from November 1 in the year before a general Presidential election through the day of the Presidential primary, and from March 31 in the year of the general election through the day of the primary election.

**Block 7:** Complete street address of your Delaware 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, State, or local office in any election. To find out the races and candidates for which you can vote, go to sample ballots of the website for the county office where you are registered. You can find a link at <http://elections.delaware.gov/locations.shtml>. If voting in a primary election, you must write in the name of a candidate. 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:

If using the FWAB simultaneously as a registration form and voted ballot, it must be received by the local election office by the registration deadline.

If using the FWAB as a voted ballot only, it must be received by the local election office by the ballot return deadline. If you receive the regular ballot after submitting the voted FWAB, you may also vote and return the State ballot. If both ballots are received by the deadline, only the State ballot will be counted.

Delaware allows you to submit the FWAB by mail, email, or fax.

Insert the sealed security envelope and the Voter's Declaration/Affirmation into the mailing envelope and mail your FWAB directly to your local election official.

If you choose to email your FWAB, you should send it as a signed, scanned attachment. Include ballot, voter affirmation, and cover sheet with secrecy waiver. Email directly to your local election office. Email addresses can be found at <http://elections.delaware.gov/locations.shtml>.

If you choose to fax your FWAB, fax it directly to your local election official. Fax numbers for election officials can be found at <http://elections.delaware.gov/>. Include ballot, voter affirmation, and cover sheet with secrecy waiver. You may also use the DoD Electronic Transmission Service to fax your FWAB toll-free. To use the Electronic Transmission Service, use the cover sheet available in Chapter 1 or at [www.fvap.gov](http://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](http://www.fvap.gov).

### Local Election Office Addresses

County	Mailing Address
Kent	Department of Elections for Kent County 100 Enterprise Pl, Suite 5 Dover, DE 19904-8202 Fax: (302) 739-4515 Email: <a href="mailto:absenteekc@state.de.us">absenteekc@state.de.us</a>
New Castle	Department of Elections for New Castle County 820 N French Street, Suite 400 Wilmington, DE 19801-3531 Fax: (302) 577-6545 Email: <a href="mailto:absentee@state.de.us">absentee@state.de.us</a>
Sussex	Department of Elections for Sussex County PO Box 457 Georgetown, DE 19947-0457 Fax: (302) 856-5082 Email: <a href="mailto:absenteesc@state.de.us">absenteesc@state.de.us</a>

