

# Puerto Rico

www.ceepur.org

<b>DEADLINES</b>	<b>Presidential Primary*</b> N/A	<b>Territory Primary</b> N/A	<b>General Election</b> <b>November 6, 2012</b>
<b>Registration</b>	N/A	N/A	<b>For Federal Offices:</b> TBD <b>For Full Ballot:</b> September 17, 2012
<b>Ballot Request</b>	N/A	N/A	<b>For Federal Offices:</b> TBD <b>For Full Ballot:</b> September 7, 2012
<b>Ballot Return</b>	N/A	N/A	<b>For Federal Offices:</b> TBD <b>For Full Ballot:</b> November 6, 2012

Information is current as of January 2012. Check [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) for updates.

\* Puerto Rico has a Caucus system for selecting Presidential Nominees.

## Registering and Requesting Your Absentee Ballot

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

Puerto Rico only accepts the FPCA as a temporary registration and absentee ballot request for elections for Federal office. If you temporarily register using the FPCA, you will only be able to vote absentee, not in person. To register permanently, you must register in person.

### 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 National and State political party affiliation. If you want to change your National or State political party affiliation, submit a completed FPCA indicating your new party preference to the Absentee Voting Administrative Board. Political party affiliation is not required if only requesting absentee ballots for general elections.

**Block 3:** Both your paternal and maternal surnames are required. Otherwise, provide your full name as it appears on file at the Puerto Rico State Elections Commission.

**Block 4:** Date of Birth

Your Puerto Rico Driver's License number is required. If you do not have a Puerto Rico Driver's License number, the last four digits of your Social Security number OR your voter registration number is required.

**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:** Puerto Rico does not allow you to receive your blank ballot by email or fax. More transmission options may be available. Check [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) for updates.

**Block 7:** Complete street address of your Puerto Rico 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:** Provide your father's and mother's first names. The certifying officer who signs the Affirmation must state here - "I certify that [voter] is a [member of the U.S. Army, student at XX University, etc., whichever is applicable]."

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:

Puerto Rico allows you to submit the FPCA by mail, email, or fax if you are already registered. If you are not already registered and choose to email or fax, you must also submit your FPCA by mail so that it arrives by the ballot return deadline.

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

Absentee Voting Administrative Board (JAVA)  
Puerto Rico State Election Commission  
PO Box 192359  
San Juan, PR 00919-2359

If you choose to email your FPCA, you should send the form as a signed, scanned attachment. Email directly to the Absentee Voting Administrative Board (JAVA) at [java@cee.gobierno.pr](mailto:java@cee.gobierno.pr).

If you choose to fax your FPCA, fax the form directly to the Absentee Voting Administrative Board at (787) 777-8680. Fax numbers can be found at [www.ceepr.org](http://www.ceepr.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](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 or refer to Puerto Rico's voter registration verification website at: <http://cee.ceepr.org/consulta/default.aspx>.

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

### Ballot Request Using Petition for Absentee Ballot

If you are already permanently registered, you may request a ballot using the Petition for Absentee Ballot which is available by mail from the Elections Commission or at [www.ceepr.org](http://www.ceepr.org).

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## Voting Your Ballot

The Puerto Rico Elections Commission sends absentee ballots at least 45 days before elections.

**Voted ballots must be postmarked no later than election day and be received by the Puerto Rico Elections**

**Commission by 3 pm on Election Day, or no later than 45 days from the date the Puerto Rico State Election Commission sends the ballot to the voter.**

There is no notary requirement on elections for Federal offices.

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 by contacting the Absentee Voting Administrative Board at:

Absentee Voting Administrative Board (JAVA)  
Puerto Rico State Election Commission  
PO Box 192359  
San Juan, PR 00919-2359  
<http://cee.ceepr.org/consulta/default.aspx>  
Fax: (787) 777-8728  
Email: [java@cee.gobierno.pr](mailto:java@cee.gobierno.pr)

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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.

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

Puerto Rico allows you to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for voting in primary, special, run-off, and 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:** Puerto Rico does not allow you to use this form for registration. Do not check the registration box.

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

**Block 3:** Both your paternal and maternal surnames are required. Otherwise, provide your full name as it appears on file at the State Elections Commission.

**Block 4:** Date of Birth

Enter your valid Puerto Rico Driver's License number, the last four digits of your Social Security number, OR your voter registration number.

**Block 5:** It is highly recommended that you 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 Puerto Rico 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 town where you claim legal voting residence.

**Block 8:** Enter your current mailing address.

**Block 9:** Provide your father's and mother's first names. The certifying officer who signs the Affirmation must state

here - "I certify that [voter] is a [member of the U.S. Army, student at XX University, etc., whichever is applicable]." Provide any information that may assist the Absentee Voting Administrative Board in accepting this ballot or application.

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

### Vote Your FWAB:

Vote for any Federal office in a primary, special, run-off or general election. To find out the races and candidates for which you can vote, go to [www.ceepur.org](http://www.ceepur.org). For each office for which you vote, write in either a candidate's name or a political party designation. Puerto Rico does not elect members 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 Resident Commissioner 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 State absentee ballots. If you receive the State 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.

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

Absentee Voting Administrative Board (JAVA)  
Puerto Rico State Election Commission  
PO Box 192359  
San Juan, PR 00919-2359  
<http://cee.ceepur.org/consulta/default.aspx>  
Fax: (787) 777-8728  
Email: [java@cee.gobierno.pr](mailto:java@cee.gobierno.pr)

