



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**  
802 LEHUA AVENUE  
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782  
[www.hawaii.gov/elections](http://www.hawaii.gov/elections)

## **FACTSHEET**

### **VOTING IN HAWAII**

#### **ELECTIONS IN HAWAII**

In every even numbered year, the State of Hawaii holds a PRIMARY ELECTION on the second to the last Saturday in September and a GENERAL ELECTION on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

The 2008 Elections will be held on the following dates:

Primary Election: **Saturday, September 20, 2008**  
General Election: **Tuesday, November 4, 2008**

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION**

In order to vote in Federal, State or County elections, eligible citizens must register to vote. You are eligible to register if you meet the following qualifications:

- You are a citizen of the United States;
- You are a resident of the State of Hawaii; and
- You are at least 16 years old (but you must be 18 years old by the day of the election to vote).

Registering to vote is easy: all you need to do is complete the Affidavit on Application for Voting (also known as the Wikiwiki Voter Registration form) and submit it to the appropriate City/County Clerk's office before the Registration Deadlines.

Primary Registration Deadline: **Thursday, August 21, 2008**  
General Registration Deadline: **Monday, October 6, 2008**

## **PRIMARY ELECTION**

The Primary Election is a nomination process to choose candidates who will represent the political parties at the General Election. You, the voter, select the candidates of the political party of your choice. Your choice of party and candidates remains secret.

In the Primary Election, you must select only one party in the Select a Party section of the ballot card, then vote for the party that you selected. If you do not select a party and you vote in more than one party ballot in this section, your vote will not be counted. Vote only for the candidates of the party you selected. Votes for another party's candidates will not be counted.

### **Special Nonpartisan Offices**

On the Primary Ballot Card, the Board of Education and county election contests are listed separately on the white "Special Nonpartisan Offices Ballot." On the Special Nonpartisan Offices Ballot, you may select the candidates of your choice for the Board of Education and County contests in addition to the candidates you may have selected on the party or nonpartisan ballot.

Each contest specifies the number of seats open for election in that contest. For some contests, there may be multiple seats. You may vote for no more than the number of candidates specified for that contest.

## **GENERAL ELECTION**

In the General Election, you may choose from among the candidates nominated in the Primary Election. You may vote for party or nonpartisan candidates, and your choice of candidates will remain secret.

Federal, State and County offices are listed on the General Ballot Card by contest. Candidates for each office are listed alphabetically and their partisan/nonpartisan affiliation is noted. You may select the candidate of your choice for each contest. You may also vote for the candidates of their choice for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA).

For some contests (OHA and Board of Education), there may be multiple seats. You may vote for no more than the number of candidates specified for each contest.

## **ABSENTEE VOTING**

Anyone registered to vote may vote by absentee ballot – by mail or in person.

To vote absentee by mail:

- You must submit an Application for Absentee Voter Ballot (also known as the Wikiwiki Absentee Application form) or write a letter to the City/County Clerk where you are registered to vote. You will need to specify the address you want your ballot mailed to; and
- You must return your completed Application for Absentee Voter Ballot to your City/County Clerk by the following deadlines:

Primary: **Saturday, September 13, 2008**

General: **Tuesday, October 28, 2008**

- You must return your voted Absentee Ballot to your City/County Clerk by the day of the respective election.

To vote absentee in person, you must vote at an absentee polling place established by the City/County Clerk where you are registered to vote. You do not need to request an absentee ballot to vote absentee in person. The periods for Absentee Voting-in-person are:

Primary: **September 8 – 18, 2008**

General: **October 21 – November 1, 2008**

### **Uniformed and Overseas Citizens**

The purpose of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) is to enable absent uniformed services and overseas citizens to vote by absentee ballot in the primary, general, and special elections for Federal Offices. The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) assists absent uniformed services and overseas citizens in registering to vote and requesting absentee ballots. If a requested absentee ballot is late in reaching the voter, a Federal-Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) may be used to vote in the General Election for Federal offices. FWABs are available through Voting Assistance Officers at military installations or at U.S. embassies/consulates. Additional information is available on the FVAP website at <http://www.fvap.gov/index.html>.

### **WHERE TO VOTE**

Properly registered voters in the State of Hawaii will receive a Notice of Voter Registration and Address Confirmation (NVRAC) postcard prior to the election. The NVRAC lists which election(s) a voter is eligible for, the voter's district/precinct number and polling place location.

Questions regarding voter registration status or polling place location should be directed to the appropriate City/County Clerk:

County of Hawaii.....961-8277  
County of Kauai .....241-6350  
County of Maui.....270-7749  
City & County of Honolulu.....768-3800

## **POLLING PLACE AND HOURS**

Polling places open at 7 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. To avoid long lines at the polls, vote during non-peak hours:

- In the morning, between 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
- In the afternoon, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

## **TIME OFF FOR VOTING**

Hawaii law provides that you may be allowed two hours of time away from work to vote. We encourage you to coordinate time off with your employer by voting before or after work if possible.

## **VOTERS REQUIRING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE**

Voters requiring special assistance at the polling place on Election Day should speak to the Voter Assistance Official at their polling place.

This Factsheet is intended for informational purposes only and should not be used as an authority on the Hawaii election law and deadlines. Requirements and/or deadlines may change pending changes in legislation. Consult the Hawaii Revised Statutes and other sources for more detailed and accurate requirements.

Office of Elections  
802 Lehua Avenue  
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782  
Phone: 808-453-VOTE(8683)  
Neighbor Island Toll Free: 1-800-442-VOTE(8683)  
TTY: 808-453-6150  
Neighbor Island TTY Toll Free: 1-800-345-5915  
Internet: [www.hawaii.gov/elections](http://www.hawaii.gov/elections)

Office of Elections - FSVS5220  
rev. August 2008