

ALASKA

Absentee Voting Guide

FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

Website: www.elections.state.ak.us

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

Presidential Primary Date: August 26, 2008

State Primary Date: August 26, 2008

General Election Date: November 4, 2008

DEADLINES FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES*	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	July 27, 2008	July 27, 2008	October 5, 2008
Ballot Request	If Registered: August 16, 2008 Not Registered: July 27, 2008	If Registered: August 16, 2008 Not Registered: July 27, 2008	If Registered: October 25, 2008 Not Registered: October 5, 2008
Ballot Return - within continental U.S., Alaska or Hawaii*	September 5, 2008	September 5, 2008	November 14, 2008
Ballot Return - from outside continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, or from APO/FPO*	September 10, 2008	September 10, 2008	November 19, 2008

DEADLINES FOR CIVILIANS OUTSIDE THE U.S.**	Presidential Primary (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	July 27, 2008	July 27, 2008	October 5, 2008
Ballot Request	If Registered: August 16, 2008 Not Registered: July 27, 2008	If Registered: August 16, 2008 Not Registered: July 27, 2008	If Registered: October 25, 2008 Not Registered: October 5, 2008
Ballot Return - from outside continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, or from APO/FPO**	September 10, 2008	September 10, 2008	November 19, 2008

Note: Election dates and information are current as of July 2007. Check the state election website above, the FVAP Website at www.fvap.gov, or contact your Voting Assistance Officer for updates.

*Special conditions apply; refer to Section II.B.

**Special conditions apply; refer to Section III.B.

ALASKA

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

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	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.)
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c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY: MAIL FAX EMAIL

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):

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.)

7. AFFIRMATION (required)
I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

- 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
- 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
- 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
- I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
- My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
- 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: _____ Date: _____
 (Witness/Notary and address (if required)) _____ Date: _____

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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.b:** It is mandatory to give any former name under which you were registered in Alaska.
- B Block 2.e:** Alaska requires the Date of Birth to be provided by the registrant.
- C Block 2.f:** The last four digits of your Social Security number OR your Alaska Driver's License number OR your Alaska State Identification Card number is required for voter registration. If you do not possess any of these identifications, the state shall assign a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes.
- D Block 2.g:** If you are an overseas citizen, you must provide your passport or identity card number in Block 2.g.
- E Block 3.a through 3.e:** Provide the complete street address of your voting residence. Your eligibility to vote and determination of your voting precinct depend on the physical location of your residence while you were in the state. A post office box, rural route number, general delivery, etc., are not sufficient. If there is no street address, give a specific identifying description, such as a highway name and milepost, trailer park and space number, subdivision name, etc., in Block 6.

Note to Uniformed Service member: Do not use the residence address where you are currently stationed, unless that is where you are claiming residency.

IMPORTANT: When registering by mail from outside the state of Alaska, **you must enclose proof of Alaska residency** (such as a copy of a current Alaska Driver's License, leave and earnings statement or any other type of documentation showing Alaska residency) with the FPCA.

- F Block 4.a:** If you want your ballot sent by mail, print the complete address. Be sure to advise the Division of Elections in writing if your mailing address changes from the time of the request for a ballot to the time of mailing the ballot.
- G Block 4.c:** If you wish to vote by fax, please indicate so and write the number where you want an application faxed in item 2.i. See faxing instructions at II.A. or III.A.
- H Block 5:** **You must write the name of your political party affiliation** (Example: Democrat, Republican, Alaskan Independence, or any other recognized political party) or write "undeclared" or "non-partisan". For the primary election, if you are a registered non-partisan or undeclared, you must indicate which party ballot you want to vote. If you are currently registered and want to change your political party

affiliation, you must submit a completed FPCA which includes your new party preference to the local election official not later than 30 days prior to the election.

- I 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.

Refer to Section II.E. or III.E. for additional instructions.

- J Block 7:** You must sign and date the FPCA. When signing, you are swearing or affirming that the information provided is true and correct.

II. UNIFORMED SERVICES

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Alaska 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.

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).

If you are an unregistered voter, the Division of Elections must receive your FPCA request for registration and a ballot at least 30 days before the election. To register from outside the state, you must enclose proof of Alaska residence with the FPCA.

If you are a registered voter and submit a ballot request by mail, the Division of Elections must receive it not less than 10 days before the election.

If you are a registered voter, you may submit a request to receive a blank ballot by fax beginning 15 days before a primary or general election. A separate application must be submitted for each election. Fax voting should only be used if you feel there is not enough time to receive, vote, and have the return ballot postmarked by Election Day. To vote absentee by fax you must request the ballot using a state of Alaska Absentee By Fax Application, which may be requested from the Division of Elections Absentee Voting Office and is available online starting 15 days prior to an election at www.elections.state.ak.us/abinfo.php under the Absentee Voting By Fax section. The by fax application must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. Alaska time the day before the election.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: If returning by mail, the envelope must be postmarked **on or before election day** and returned by mail service equal to first class. See information on Returning a Ballot (Section C below) prior to signing/sending your ballot. Ballots mailed from outside the U.S. or from a military APO or FPO address must be received not later than **15 days after the election**. Ballots mailed from other addresses must be received not later than **10 days after the election**.

Absentee by-mail ballots are mailed approximately 22 days before the election.

If you have not received your state ballot in a timely manner, use the **Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot**. See instructions in Chapter Two.

C. Notary/Witness Requirements

FPCA: No notary or witness required.

Returning a Ballot: If the ballot is returned by mail, the signature on the voter's certificate on the envelope must be witnessed, and signed and dated by one witness.

A commissioned or non-commissioned officer, or other person qualified to administer oaths, can serve as a witness. When an authorized official is not available, an individual 18 years or older may witness.

D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- Alaska allows you to send the FPCA for registration and absentee ballot request by fax. Alaska allows a voter to submit a scanned voter registration or application for absentee ballot as an email attachment to akabsentee@gov.state.ak.us.
- To receive the blank ballot by fax **see instructions in Section IIA above**.
- Instructions to return the voted ballot by fax **will be provided with the ballot**.

Fax the FPCA to:

Absentee Voting Office
(907) 677-9943

Refer to Appendix B for specific instructions for sending election materials electronically. You may also use one of 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. Special Advance Write-In Ballot

In addition to mailing a regular ballot, Alaska mails a special write-in absentee ballot 60 days before the election to any voter who has requested an absentee by-mail ballot and is living, working, or traveling outside the U.S. at the time of the election. You may request a Special Advance Write-In Ballot by writing in **Block 6 of the FPCA**: "Please send a special advance ballot". The FPCA may be submitted via regular mail, scanned email attachment, or fax any time after January 1st of an election year. Special Advance Ballots are mailed approximately 60 days prior to an election and continued to be mailed daily until the 30th day prior to an election. It is advisable to apply as early as possible for a Special Advance Ballot.

An unofficial list of candidates will be included with the Special Advance Write-In Ballot when mailed to you. Vote the ballot by writing in the names of specific candidates or designating a party preference and filling in the adjoining oval next to the line where you have written in your candidate/party selection.

F. Application for Ballot by Proxy

Alaska allows a person with power of attorney to make a change to the voter's registration or apply for an absentee ballot on behalf of the voter.

G. Late Registration

In a Presidential Election year, honorably discharged military personnel and citizens terminated from employment outside the territorial limits of the U.S. may register after the 30-day deadline and their vote for President will be counted.

H. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude may not register or vote unless civil rights have been restored. A copy of unconditional discharge papers must be included with the application.

I. Action on Registration Requests

Notice of acceptance or denial is sent.

J. Action Upon Denial of Registration or Absentee Ballot Request

Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, Alaska shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection. The citizen will be given the opportunity to reapply or otherwise correct the deficiency. Persons denied registration may contact the Division of Elections or consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Alaska 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 Alaska.

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

A. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You should send an FPCA to the **Absentee Voting Office** early each year or when your mailing address changes (see Chapter Two, Section Five).

If you are an unregistered voter, the Division of Elections must receive your FPCA request for registration and a ballot at least 30 days before the election. To register from outside the State, you must enclose proof of Alaska residence with the FPCA.

If you are a registered voter and submit a ballot request by mail, the Division of Elections must receive it no less than 10 days before the election.

If you are a registered voter, you may submit a request to receive a blank ballot by fax beginning 15 days before a primary or general election. A separate application must be submitted for each election. Fax voting should only be used if you feel there is not enough time to receive, vote, and have the return ballot postmarked by Election Day. To vote absentee by fax you must request the ballot using a State of Alaska Absentee By Fax Application, which may be requested from the Division of Elections Absentee Voting Office and is available online starting 15 days prior to an election at www.elections.state.ak.us/abinfo.php under the Absentee Voting By Fax section. The by fax application must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. Alaska time the day before the election.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: If returning by mail, the envelope must be postmarked **on or before election day** and returned by mail service equal to first class. See information on Ballot Return Envelope (Section C below) prior to signing/sending your ballot. Ballots mailed from outside the U.S. or from a military APO or FPO address must be received not later than **15 days after the election**. Ballots mailed from other addresses must be received not later than **10 days after the election**.

Absentee by-mail ballots are mailed approximately 22 days before the election.

If you have not received your state ballot in a timely manner, use the **Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot**. See instructions in Chapter Two.

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Advance Ballots are mailed approximately 60 days prior to an election and continued to be mailed daily until the 30th day prior to an election. It is advisable to apply as early as possible for a Special Advance Ballot.

An unofficial list of candidates will be included with the Special Advance Write-In Ballot when mailed to you. Vote the ballot by writing in the names of specific candidates or designating a party preference and filling in the adjoining oval next to the line where you have written in your candidate/party selection.

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IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

Where To Send It

Mail the FPCA to:

Absentee Voting Office
619 E. Ship Creek Ave, Ste 329
Anchorage, AK 99501-1677

Your vote determines your future - Participate in 2008

by Ilene D. Berman, DAFC