



VOTING ASSISTANCE GUIDE - SECOND OF THREE COORDINATIONS IN PROCESS

In late February, FVAP kicked off the 2026-2027 Voting Assistance Guide state coordination. The Guide is a compilation of absentee voting regulations, laws, deadlines and procedures across the 55 U.S. states, territories, as well as the District of Columbia. As the primary source of state absentee voting information for citizens covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, the Guide continues to be a critical resource for both military and State Department Voting Assistance Officers. The same state specific information is used on the FVAP.gov website by voters in successfully completing the required forms and finding contact information for their election office. As in previous years, we work with the state election office through three stages of coordination requiring different, crucial, and timely information for voters. We will be reaching out shortly for the third stage of coordination – including local election office contact information, election dates, and a final look at the Guide content.

You can help by reaching out to us anytime with any legislative or regulatory changes that occur during coordination that will be in effect for 2026 and impact UOCAVA voters. We can adjust the content of the printed guide until its fall 2025 print date and update the online information in real-time.

We work closely state election officials to maintain correct local election official contact information, but please do not hesitate to send us your individual updates to vote@fvap.gov.

FVAP'S POST-2024 MILITARY SERVICE MEETING

In early March, each branch of military Service, including the United States Coast Guard and the Military Service Postal Agency, briefed their 2024 Voting Assistance Programs, providing highlights, challenges, and a way ahead to the FVAP Director and the FVAP staff. This face-to-face between FVAP and the Services takes place after every Federal election cycle to facilitate information sharing and brainstorm improvements moving ahead to the next election cycle. FVAP appreciates the support of the Service Voting Action Officers in making this meeting happen.

FVAP's EMAIL-TO-FAX SERVICE TERMINATED

As of August 1, 2025, FVAP terminated its fax service. Voters are no longer able to send an email to FVAP with attached election materials or ballots to be forwarded to localities as a fax.



FVAP TRAININGS

In 2026, FVAP will continue to engage state and local election offices in providing support, transparent communications, and opportunities to cooperate toward increased UOCAVA awareness and success. Please consider including an FVAP presentation as you plan state-wide in-person or virtual election official training conferences, webinars, or events, especially for new local election officials. If you are interested an FVAP staff member addressing your event attendees, please contact sara.m.hedlund.civ@mail.mil.



RECENT FVAP OUTREACH EVENTS

Overseas Voting Initiative Working Group – FVAP continues its cooperative agreement with the Council of State Governments (CSG). The CSG's Overseas Voting Initiative (OVI) brings together a group of dedicated currently practicing election officials to work on improving absentee voting for the Uniformed Services, their eligible family members, and overseas U.S. citizens. This year's OVI working group meeting took place in Seattle, Washington and featured a tour of the King County Elections building and meetings with military spouse representatives.



Boren Awards Convocation – FVAP attended the 2025 Boren Convocation for the 2025-26 cohort of over 200 scholars and fellows as part of a close relationship with the Defense Language and National Security Education Office, the DoD office administering the Boren Awards. The Boren Awards fund the intensive study of language and culture abroad by U.S. undergraduate or graduate students. During the event, FVAP provided the students with the FPCA, FWAB, study abroad fact sheet, trifold brochures and wallet cards in addition to answering questions about voting absentee while studying overseas and how to contact their local election office for voter registration and absentee ballot request.



UPCOMING: FVAP's 2024 REPORT TO CONGRESS



FVAP Voting Assistance Ambassador assisting voters in the UK during an event

In the fall, FVAP will be releasing its Report to Congress for 2024. This will include new data collected from military voters, voting assistance officers, and overseas citizens, as well as an assessment of FVAP's work with states and general outreach activities.

Some 2024 UOCAVA data has already been released in the EAVS report, Section B. According to this report, Uniformed services members and their eligible family members accounted for 39.8 percent of registered UOCAVA voters and overseas citizens accounted for 59.3 percent of this population. Just four states represented 48.8 percent of UOCAVA voters – Florida, Virginia, California, and Washington. The full report can be found at the EAC's [website](#).

We look forward to sharing the results of our surveys in the Report to Congress later this year.