



2020-2021 Election Cycle Voting Action Plan



Important Dates for Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs)

2019

Nov 1 VAO of the Quarter Deadline for SVAOs to submit nominations for the 3rd Quarter 2020 VAO of the Quarter

Nov 13 FVAP Email Blast FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from November 13-15. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.

Nov 15 Order Supplies Order new Voting Assistance Guides, FPCAs, FWABs, brochures and motivational posters. This is an ongoing task for all VAOs. Order your 2019 FPCA/FWAB forms through proper channels; <https://www.fvap.gov/vao/materials/usm-order>.

Dec 9 FVAP Email Blast FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from December 9-11. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.

Dec 31 Measures of Effect and Performance Deadline for VAOs and Installation Voter Assistance Office staff to submit metrics in the FVAP portal. SVAOs must submit metrics to FVAP by January 15th.

2020

Jan 1 VAO of the Quarter Deadline for SVAOs to submit nominations for the 1st Quarter 2020 VAO of the Quarter

Jan 6 Command Emphasis Campaign Release Voting Awareness/Emphasis messages via Commanders, Base Newspapers, electronic mail, etc. Messages may be obtained by VAOs through their SVAO/FVAP.

Jan 6 FVAP Email Blast FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from January 6-8. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.





Jan 6	IVA Office Outreach	IVA Office personnel should ensure the contact information for their office is correct as found on FVAP.gov: http://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices . Email: vote@fvap.gov with updated contact information. SVAOs will reach out to IVA Offices to confirm.
Jan 7	VAO In-Person Workshops	DoD Instruction 1000.04, Enclosure 4.2.t., requires all VAOs to complete either an FVAP or Service-provided workshop. Our 2020 in-person workshops kickoff at TBD. Find your workshop at http://www.fvap.gov/vao/training .
Jan 15	Distribute FPCAs to UOCAVA voters	Deadline for VAOs to distribute FPCAs (electronically or in hand) to all UOCAVA voters and encourage them to complete and submit to their local election official to apply to register and request an absentee ballot for all elections in 2020.
Jan 21	Public Service Announcements	Create Service or base specific public service announcements with high ranking officials highlighting the importance of voting. Begin airing these PSAs at base theaters or on AFN. Examples can be found on http://www.fvap.gov/info/outreach .
Feb 2	Super Bowl Challenge	FVAP will air public service announcements during the Super Bowl on Armed Forces Network. Host a voter registration drive or hang voting posters around your base Super Bowl Party. Send photos to FVAP.
Feb 3	FVAP Email Blast	FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from February 3-5. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA now, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.
Mar 4	FVAP Email Blast	FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from March 4-6. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA now, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.
Mar 31	Measures of Effect and Performance	Deadline for VAOs and Installation Voter Assistance Office staff to submit metrics in the FVAP portal. SVAOs must submit metrics to FVAP by April 15 th .
Apr 1	VAO of the Quarter	Deadline for SVAOs to submit nominations for the 2 nd Quarter 2020 VAO of the Quarter





Apr 6 IVA Office Outreach

IVA Office personnel should ensure the contact information for their office is correct as found on FVAP.gov: <http://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices>. Email: vote@fvap.gov with updated contact information.

SVAOs will reach out to IVA Offices to confirm.

Apr 6 FVAP Email Blast

FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from April 6-8. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA now, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.

May 4 FVAP Email Blast

FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from May 4-6. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA now, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.

Jun 1 FVAP Email Blast

FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from June 1-3. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA now, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.

Jun 15 Public Service Announcements

Run a Service or base specific public service announcement with high-ranking officials highlighting the importance of voting at base theaters or on AFN. Examples can be found on the FVAP Facebook page.



Jun 28 Armed Forces Voters Week and Overseas Citizens Voters Week

VAOs should plan and participate in Voting Emphasis Week (June 28-July 5, 2020) activities to encourage eligible citizens to apply to register to vote and request an absentee ballot. VAOs are encouraged to plan events around installation 4th of July activities. Invite military Families and promote availability of new direct-to-voter training video!

Jun 30 Measures of Effect and Performance

Deadline for VAOs and Installation Voter Assistance Office staff to submit metrics in the FVAP portal. SVAOs must submit metrics to FVAP by July 15th.

Jul 1 VAO of the Quarter

Deadline for SVAOs to submit nominations for the 2nd Quarter 2020 VAO of the Quarter

Jul 1 Command Emphasis Campaign

Release Voting Awareness/Emphasis messages via Commanders, Base Newspapers, electronic mail, etc. Messages may be obtained by VAOs through their SVAO/FVAP. Campaign should run in coordination with the Voting Emphasis Week.

Jul 6 FVAP Email Blast

FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from July 6-8. This email will remind them of the upcoming primary elections and emphasize the need to fill out an FPCA



now, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.

Jul 6 LES Statement

FVAP will ensure that a voting message encouraging Active Duty members to register and request an absentee ballot be added to the Leave and Earnings Statement for all DoD personnel.

Jul 6 IVA Office Outreach

IVA Office personnel should ensure the contact information for their office is correct as found on FVAP.gov: <http://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices>. Email: vote@fvap.gov with updated contact information.
SVAO will reach out to IVA Offices to confirm.



Jul 15 Distribute FPCAs to UOCAVA voters

Deadline for VAOs to distribute the FPCA (electronically or by hand) to UOCAVA voters they assist and encourage them to complete and submit to their local election official to apply to register and request an absentee ballot for the 2020 General Election.

Aug 3 FVAP Email Blast

FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from August 3-5. This email will remind them that the November election is 90 days away, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.

Sept 1 IVA Office Outreach

IVA Office personnel should ensure the contact information for their office is correct as found on FVAP.gov: <http://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices>. Email: vote@fvap.gov with updated contact information.
FVAP/SVAO will reach out to IVA Offices to confirm.

Sept 2 FVAP Email Blast

FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from September 2-4. This email will remind them that the November election is 60 days away, and will promote direct-to-voter training video.

Sept 19 Ballot Mailing Deadline

Deadline for States to send absentee ballots to UOCAVA voters. Voters should begin checking their mail boxes and email for their ballot. Vote and return your ballot upon receiving it.

Sept 21 Public Service Announcements

Run Service or base specific public service announcements with high ranking officials highlighting the importance of voting at base theaters or on AFN. Examples can be found on the FVAP Facebook page.

Sept 21 LES Statement

FVAP will ensure that a voting message encouraging Active Duty members to register and request an absentee ballot be added to the Leave and Earnings Statement for all DoD personnel.



Sept 30 Measures of Effect and Performance
Deadline for VAOs and Installation Voter Assistance Office staff to submit metrics in the FVAP portal. SVAOs must submit metrics to FVAP by October 15th.



Sept 27 Absentee Voting Week
VAOs should encourage all absentee voters to complete and return their absentee ballot. Absentee Voting Week runs from September 27-October 4, 2020. Share the FWAB video clip with voters.

Oct 1 VAO of the Quarter
Deadline for SVAOs to submit nominations for the 3rd Quarter 2020 VAO of the Quarter

Oct 1 Command Emphasis Campaign
Release Voting Awareness/Emphasis messages via Commanders, Base Newspapers, electronic mail, etc. Messages may be obtained by VAOs through their SVAO/FVAP. Campaign should run in coordination with the Voting Emphasis Week.

Oct 1 Recommended Mailing Dates
Voters in Iraq, Afghanistan, ships at sea and other overseas locations without access to the military postal system should send voted ballots in now so they arrive in time to be counted.

Oct 1 IVA Office Outreach
IVA Office personnel should ensure the contact information for their office is correct as found on FVAP.gov: <http://www.fvap.gov/info/contact/iva-offices>. Email: vote@fvap.gov with updated contact information.
FVAP/SVAO will reach out to IVA Offices to confirm.

Oct 1 FVAP Email Blast
FVAP will send an email to all Uniformed Service members with active email addresses from October 1-2. This email will remind them that the November election is 30 days away and to use the FWAB if they haven't received their requested ballot from election office. Will include link to FWAB-focused video.

Oct 4 30 days before Election Day
VAOs should encourage voters who have not received their requested absentee ballots to complete and submit the FWAB.



Oct 19 Recommended Mailing Dates
Voters in overseas military installations with access to the military postal system should send voted ballots in now so they arrive in time to be counted. – Use the 11-DOD Label to expedite the mail.

Oct 19 15 days before Election Day
VAOs should stress to voters to complete and return their absentee ballot. If voters have not received their requested absentee ballots, VAOs should encourage them to complete and submit the FWAB.



Oct 23 Recommended Mailing Dates

Stateside Uniformed Service members and their families should send voted ballots in now so they arrive in time to be counted.



Nov 3 Election Day

VAOs should remind local voters to go to their polling place and vote. IVA Offices should ensure coverage to answer last minute questions and assist voters returning their ballots by fax or email (for States that allow these methods of ballot transmission).

Dec 31 Measures of Effect and Performance

Deadline for VAOs and Installation Voter Assistance Office staff to submit metrics in the FVAP portal. SVAOs must submit metrics to FVAP by January 15th.

2021

Jan 1 VAO of the Quarter

Deadline for SVAOs to submit nominations for the 4th Quarter 2020 VAO of the Quarter

Jan 2 Order Supplies

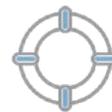
2020-2021 Voting Assistance Guides, FPCAs, FWABs, brochures and motivational posters are available. If the prior VAO did not leave materials behind, order materials through proper channels: <http://www.fvap.gov/vao/materials>.

Jan 15 Distribute FPCAs to UOCAVA voters

Deadline for VAOs to distribute FPCAs to all UOCAVA voters and encourage them to complete and submit to their local election official to apply to register or to request an absentee ballot for all elections in 2019.

Jan 31 After Action Reports

All After Action Reports must be submitted to FVAP. VAOs should submit AARs in the format and timeline requested by their SVAO.





Ongoing Tasks	
Directory Information	The Major Command and Installation Voter Assistance Officers must maintain a directory of all local unit VAOs containing names, email addresses and office telephone numbers. This directory must be updated at least quarterly.
Website Information	Provide the name, mailing address, e-mail and office telephone number of Installation Voter Assistance Office and Installation Voter Assistance Officers on the installation website.
Public Affairs	VAOs must work with PAO to publicize primary elections and inform military personnel and their family members of their right to vote. Voting outreach efforts should be incorporated into military and family appreciation events such as air shows and open houses.
Training	VAOs must attend a training workshop or complete online training. More information regarding in person and online training can be found at http://www.fvap.gov/vao/training .
Voter Support	VAOs should make time in their schedules to help voters fill out Federal Postcard Applications or use the online wizards. With unit members voting in different States, voter support must remain an ongoing task.
News Releases	Sign up for the FVAP email updates to receive election news. You can sign up by emailing vote@fvap.gov or by visiting https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFVAP/subscribers/new .
VAO To-Do Lists	FVAP creates monthly to-do lists with recommended tasks for all VAOs. These lists can be obtained by contacting FVAP, your SVAO or IVAO.

VAOs should consult their service guidance for additional information on service-specific voting activities.

Key FVAP Resources for VAOs		
Website	FVAP.gov	Up-to-date <i>Voting Assistance Guide</i> and FPCA and FWAB online assistants
Email	vote@fvap.gov	Email FVAP with voting assistance questions
Telephone	1-800-438-VOTE (8683)	Call FVAP with voting assistance questions
Facebook	Facebook.com/DoDFVAP	FVAP and UOCAVA updates
Twitter	Twitter.com/FVAP	FVAP and UOCAVA updates

For Service specific Voting Action Plans visit <http://www.fvap.gov/vao/directives>.

