Federal Voting Assistance Program

Putting Policy Into Action



EAC Board of Advisors May 23, 2017



Who Am I and Where Have I Been?

- √ Joined FVAP in 2010
 - **✓ Dir. Of Voting Assistance**
 - ✓ Deputy Dir. Of Technology Programs
- ✓ Local election official in Florida & Texas
- ✓ Exec. Director of the Election Technology Council (ETC)

Florida chads from 2000





00:02 • 03:16





What Is UOCAVA





UOCAVA

The *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* of 1986, or *UOCAVA*, allows certain U.S. citizens to apply to register and vote absentee in elections for Federal office.

Citizens covered under UOCAVA include:

- Members of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine who are absent from their voting jurisdiction due to their service.
- Dependents of members of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine who are absent from their voting jurisdiction with the member.
- 3. U.S. citizens residing outside the United States and its territories.

Note: Uniformed Service members and their eligible family members residing in their voting jurisdictions are not covered under *UOCAVA*.

UOCAVA Amendments

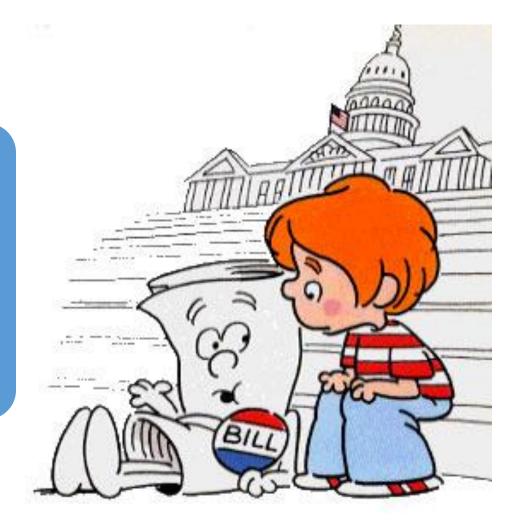
Help America Vote Act (HAVA), 2002

 Required States to notify voters the reasons for rejecting a registration application or absentee ballot request



Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act, 2009

- Requires States to make voter registration and absentee ballot applications available electronically
- Requires ballots to be sent 45 days prior to an election
- Ballot applications good for one election cycle



Who are our voters?

More than 5.7 million U.S. citizens living, studying, and working overseas (2.6 million can vote*)

1.3 million absent members of the Uniformed Services and Merchant Marines

700,000 plus eligible family members of the Uniformed Services and Merchant Marine

^{*} They are 18+ years old

Putting Policy Into Action: Customer Support in 2016





FVAP Voting Assistance Center

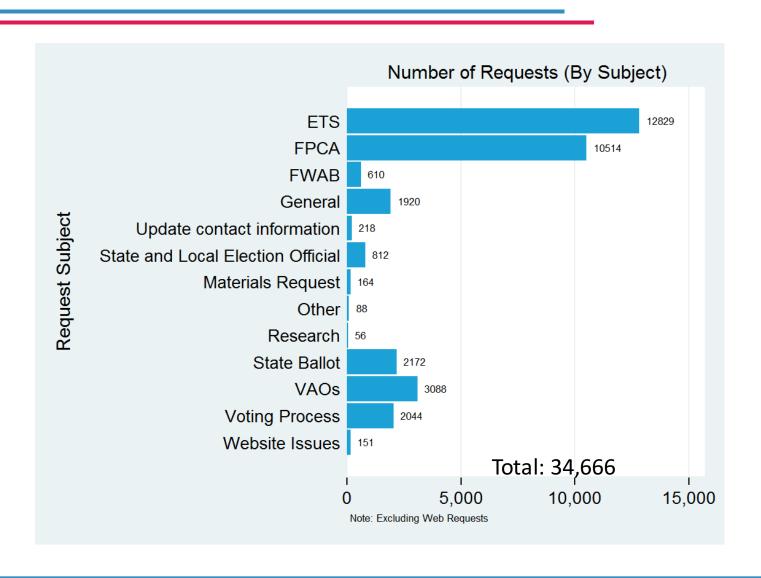


Internally staffed by FVAP employees

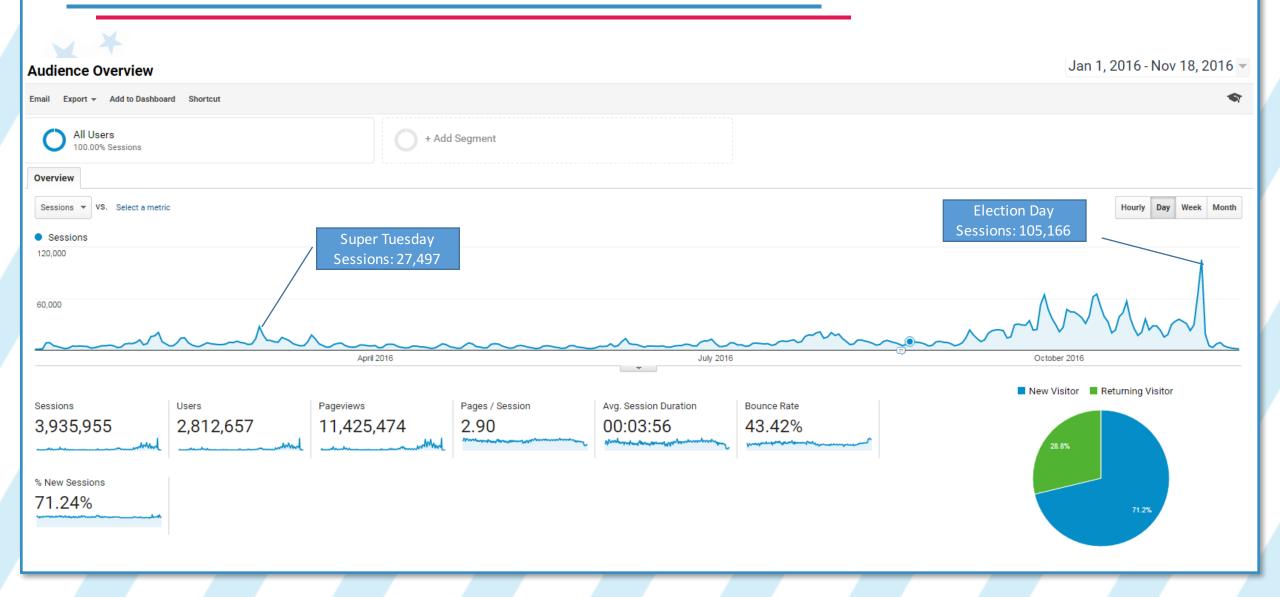
Subject matter experts for both locals & State election officials

Nearly 40,000 inquires

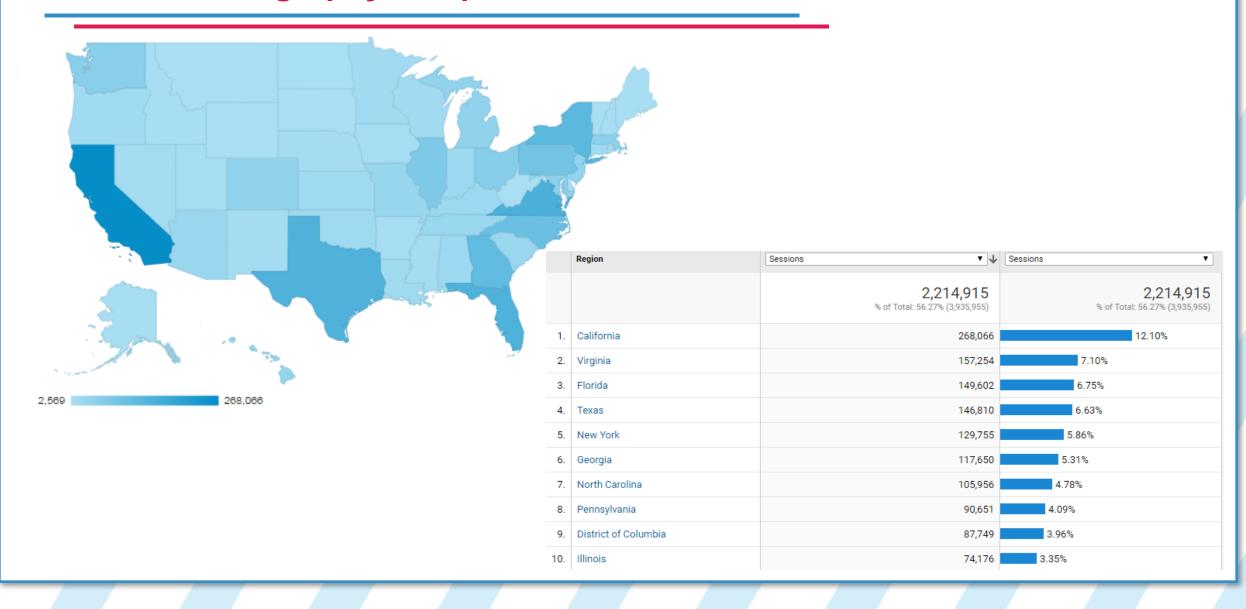
What Were Customers' Concerns?



Audience Overview



Audience Geography – Top Ten States



Behavior – Top External Referrals



		723,858 % of Total: 49.17% (1,472,178)	723,858 % of Total: 49.17% (1,472,178)
1.	registertovote.ca.gov/	68,296	9.44%
2.	ny.secureballotusa.com/ny_loginselection.action	34,633	4.78%
3.	move.elections.il.gov/	31,553	4.36%
4.	www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/	28,489	3.94%
5.	wei.sos.wa.gov/agency/osos/en/pages/myvote.aspx	26,311	3.63%
6.	ohio.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.htm	20,457	2.83%
7.	dos.myflorida.com/elections/	19,435	2.69%
8.	www.votetexas.gov/	17,648	2.44%
9.	newyork.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.htm	15,572	2.15%
10.	www.sos.ca.gov/elections/	15,521	2.14%

New Marketing— The Commanders Video "Lead The Vote"





Federal Voting Assistance Program - FVAP

Published by Daniela Marin [?] · October 15 · ❸

These military leaders are casting their ballots from ships at sea, on base, and across the globe. Our goal this election year is to ensure that Service members can vote, wherever they are.

Learn more: https://goo.gl/UVw03K





THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

OCT 0 3 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER CHIEFS OF THE MILITARY SERVICES CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU COMMANDANT OF THE COAST GUARD COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC

AFFAIRS DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES

DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Command Emphasis of Voting Assistance Efforts to Support Service Members and Their Families this Election Season

As commanders and leaders, you play an important role in communicating Department of Defense policies and sharing important resources to enhance the well-being of Service members. With this in mind, the Department created a video for military leaders at all levels, encouraging them to provide the required support of voting assistance programs.

The short video is an efficient and effective way to convey the Department's longstanding policy of providing voting assistance and encouraging military awareness of the electoral process. This video can be found at www.fvap.gov/leadthevote. I encourage you to watch the video and share it with your peers and personnel under your command.

For the November 8, 2016, election, Americans at home and abroad will once again have the opportunity to exercise democracy's most important right, the right to vote. Many of these votes will be cast using an absentee ballot. Every day, your efforts and the efforts of the men and women under your command make this country safer and its people more secure. No matter where you are in the world and no matter for whom you chose to vote, the Department is committed to ensuring that those in uniform, and their family members, have the opportunity to exercise the very privilege they fight to defend.

I am confident you share my goal of empowering Service members and assuring them that the Department supports their right to vote. Thank you for your continued leadership, support, and engagement in the success of all voting assistance efforts.

Social Media Marketing



- For every DOLLAR spent on Facebook, we reached 17 voters!
- Facebook ads reached 4.5 MILLION people!



- Connect with State & locals
- Ovoters loved our "I Voted from..." stickers



Follow

Ambassador Costos

@JamesCostos

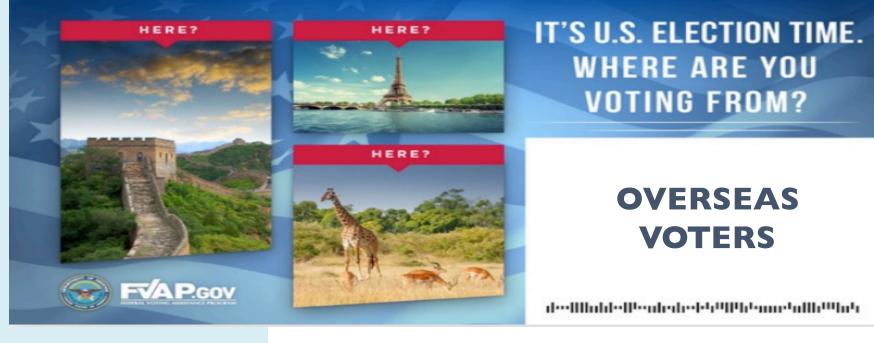
I voted today from Madrid...if you have

I voted today from Madrid...if you have questions about voting in Spain, contact Madrid's Voting Assistance Officer at voteMadrid@state.gov.









Overseas Citizens

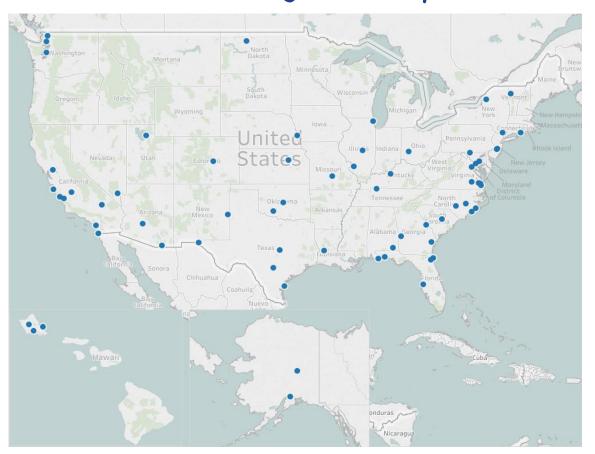
WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE VOTING-AGE AMERICANS?

EVERYWHERE. CANADA HAS THE MOST.

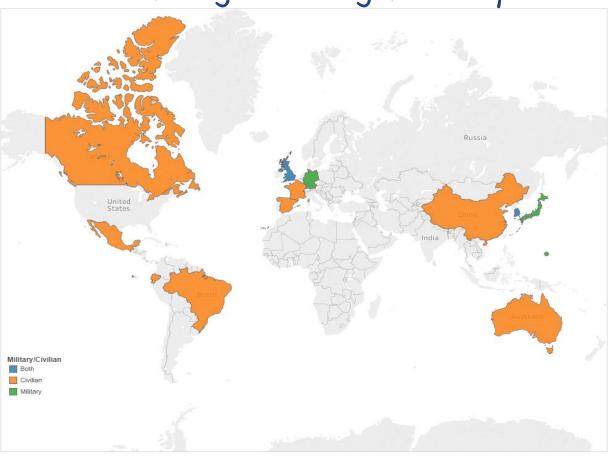


Workshops In the Field

US Training Workshops



Foreign Training Workshops

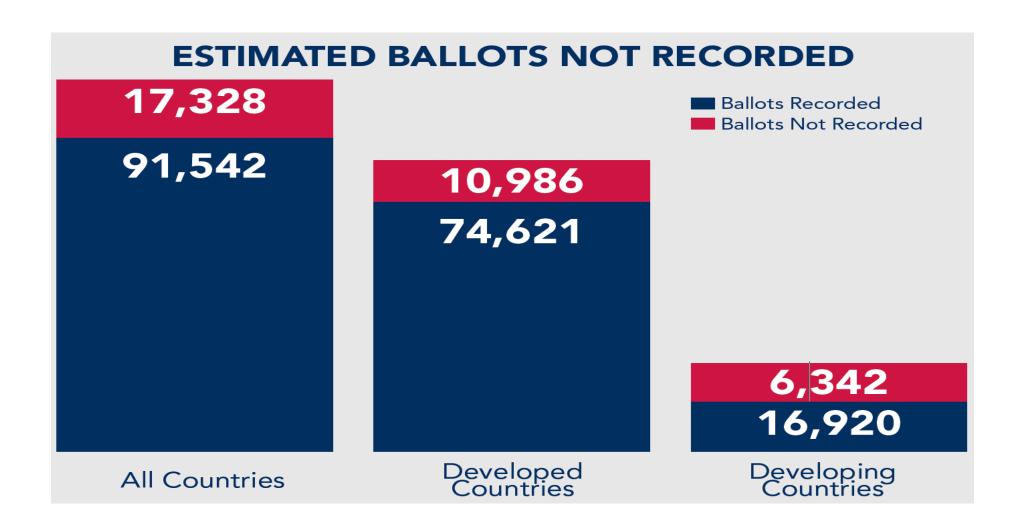


Recent & Upcoming Research

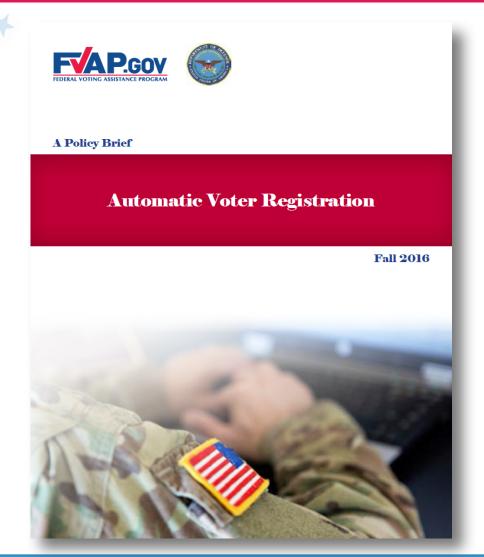




Research – International Mailing Systems

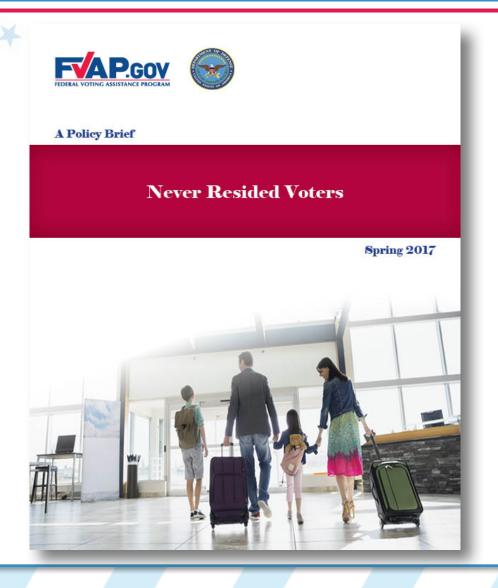


Policy Brief #1 - Automatic Voter Registration



- A hot topic in many States
- Highlights the benefits and considerations
- Starts the conversation
- Sent out December 2016

Policy Brief # 2– Never Resided Voters



- Many Never Resided voters contacted us for help in 2016
- Highlights the benefits and considerations
- Starts the conversation
- Released Spring 2017

We always welcome new ideas for policy research related to UOCAVA!

The Other Front Line: State & Local Election Officials



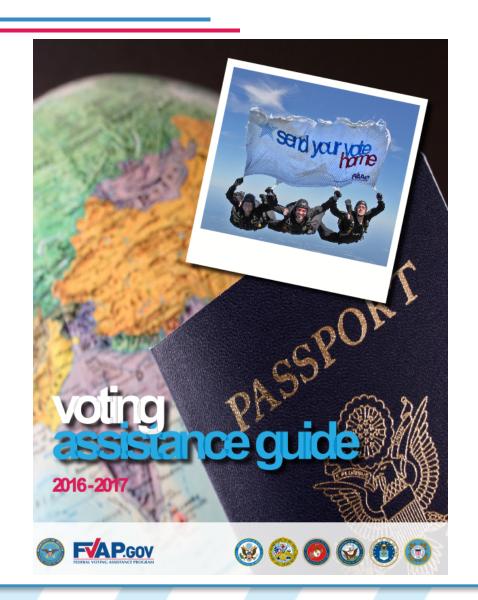


Voting Assistance Guide

 New coordination procedures

Standardized content

Plain language principles



Electronic Transmission Service (ETS)



 ETS remains a difficult service to maintain

FVAP looking to narrow scope in 2018

Will seek input from election officials through the Council of State Governments (CSG)

Form Updates

- New FPCA & FWAB forms coming in 2018
- 105 Comments Received for FPCA changes; 71 for **FWAB**
- All comments reconciled prior to final Federal **Register notice**

Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request

Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)

States and territories accept this form to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, contact information.

See your State instructions at FVAP.gov

1. Who are you?				
□ I am on active duty in the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine - OR - □ I am an eligible spouse or dependent. □ I am an activated National Guard member on State orders. □ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I intend to return. □ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and my return is uncertain. □ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I have never lived in the U.S.				
First name		Suffix (Sr., Jr., II)		
Middle name		Previous names (if needed)		
Last name		Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY)	/ /	
Social Security Number	- OR - Only the last 4 digits are needed; except for Hawaii, New Mexico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.	Driver's license or State ID		
2. What is your address in t	the State or territory where you are registe	ering to vote or requesting	g a ballot?	
Your voting materials will n	not be sent to this address.			
Street (Not P.O. box)		Apt. Number		
City, town, village		County		
State		ZIP		
	must give your CURRENT contact informa	ation to receive your votion	ng materials	
Your current address.	must give your connent contact morning		is different, fill it in here.	
Contact information: So election officials can reach you if there is a problem with your request.	Email Alternate email Phone: Include country and area codes. Not DSN.			
	FaX: Include country and area codes. Not DSN.			
4. What is your voting prefe How do you want to receive your ballot from your election office?	erence? Email or online Mail Fax	Your political party for primary elections.		
	tion or State requirements must you prov nation: Alaska, Arizona, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Vern		Assistance Guide online at www.fvap.gov/vao/vag.	
completion of this docu l am a U.S. citizen, am a l am not disqualified to or if so, my voting rights l am not registering, req		jury. ction), eligible to vote in the re ther disqualifying offense, nor n in the United States, except t	equested jurisdiction, and have I been adjudicated mentally incompetent; the jurisdiction cited in this voting form.	
Sign here X			Today's date / /	

Voter Information

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)

This information is for official use only. Any unauthorized release may be punishable by law.

Yes	Fill out this form	and the Backup	Ballot, Send	l them both i

□ No

— You must register and request an absentee ballot before filling out the Backup Ballot for: AL, AS, AR, CT, FL, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, LA, MI, NH, NJ, NM, NY, PA, PR, RI, TX, VT, WV, WY. If your State is listed, go online to complete a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) at FVAP.gov.

- If your State is not listed, send in this form and the Backup Ballot.

Standard Form 76 (Rev.09-2016), OMB No. 0704-0502

1. Who are you?				
□ I am on active duty in the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine - OR - □ I am an eligible spouse or dependent. □ I am an activated National Guard member on State orders. □ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I intend to return. □ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and my return is uncertain. □ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I have never lived in the U.S.				
First name		Suffix (Sr., Jr., II)		
Middle name		Previous names (if needed)		
Last name		Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY)	/ /	
	- OR - last 4 digits are needed; except for New Mexico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.	Driver's license or State ID		
	te or territory where you are registe	red to vote?		
Your voting materials will not be s	ent to this address.			
Street (Not P.O. box)		Apt. Number		
City, town, village		County		
State		ZIP		
Where are you now? You must give your CURRENT contact inforf Your current address.		If your mailing address is different		
reach you if there is a Phone	state email 2: Include country and area codes. Not DSN. sclude country and area codes. Not DSN. sclude country and area codes. Not DSN.			
4. What is your voting preference?	?			
receive your ballot from	mail or online fail ax	Your political party for primary elections.	_	
	State requirements must you prov abama, Alaska, Arizona, Puerto Rico, South Da www.fvap.gov/vao/vag.			
completion of this document ma		ury.		
 I am not disqualified to vote due to having been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense, nor have I 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 United States, except the jurisdiction cited in this voting form. 				
Cisto have V				

Backup Ballot

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)

To find out more about specific candidates and races in the upcoming election, go to www.fvap.gov.

Instructions

Use this Backup Ballot if you do not receive an absentee ballot from your State 30 days before the election. The Backup Ballot can be used to vote for federal offices. Legal residents of American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands may vote for all federal offices in the primary election, but only Delegate or Resident Commissioner in the general election. State laws vary about using it for other elections like Governor or Mayor. Learn more online at FVAP.gov.

Write in the name or political party of the candidates you choose.

DO NOT write your name or Social Security Number on the ballot.

Candidates for federal offices		
President and Vice President		
U.S. Senator		
U. S. Representative, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner to Congress		
Candidates for non-federal offices		
Office	Candidate name	Political Party
Ballot initiatives		

Standard Form 186 (Rev.09-2016), OMB No. 0704-0502

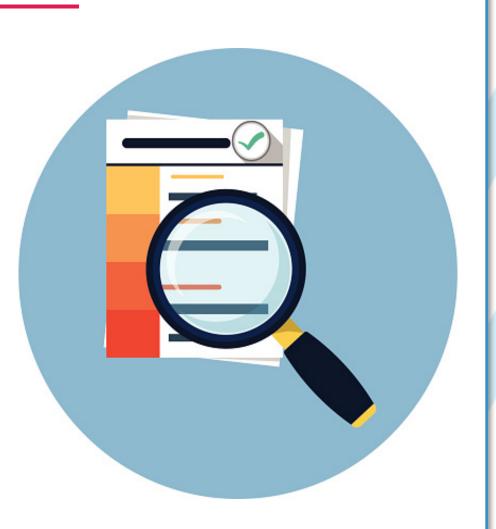
Going Forward





2017 Program Milestones

- July 2017: Report to Congress
- August 2017: Adoption of new FPCA and FWAB
- August 2017: Estimated Release of Military Ballot Tracking Pilot Project Report with CSG
- October 2017: Release of 2018-2019 Voting Assistance Guide
- January 2018: Kickoff of Voting Assistance
 Officer Workshops



Questions?

FVAP.gov 1800-438-VOTE (8683) @fvap.gov



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