

UOCAVA

What we know
What works

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The Main Problem

Returning a marked ballot to the local election official

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and...

Very low overseas voter turnout rate

Civilian Overseas - ~ 12.1 % (4.9 million overseas)

Military Overseas - ~ 19 % (571,000 overseas)

What can we solve statutorily?

The overseas and military absentee balloting process

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We can't fix the turnout rate, but...

We can minimize the hurdles and barriers

The Main Problem

UOCAVA ballot return rate:

	2008	2012
Overall	69 %	74 %
Civilian overseas	70 %	~ 75 %
Military	67 %	~ 72 %

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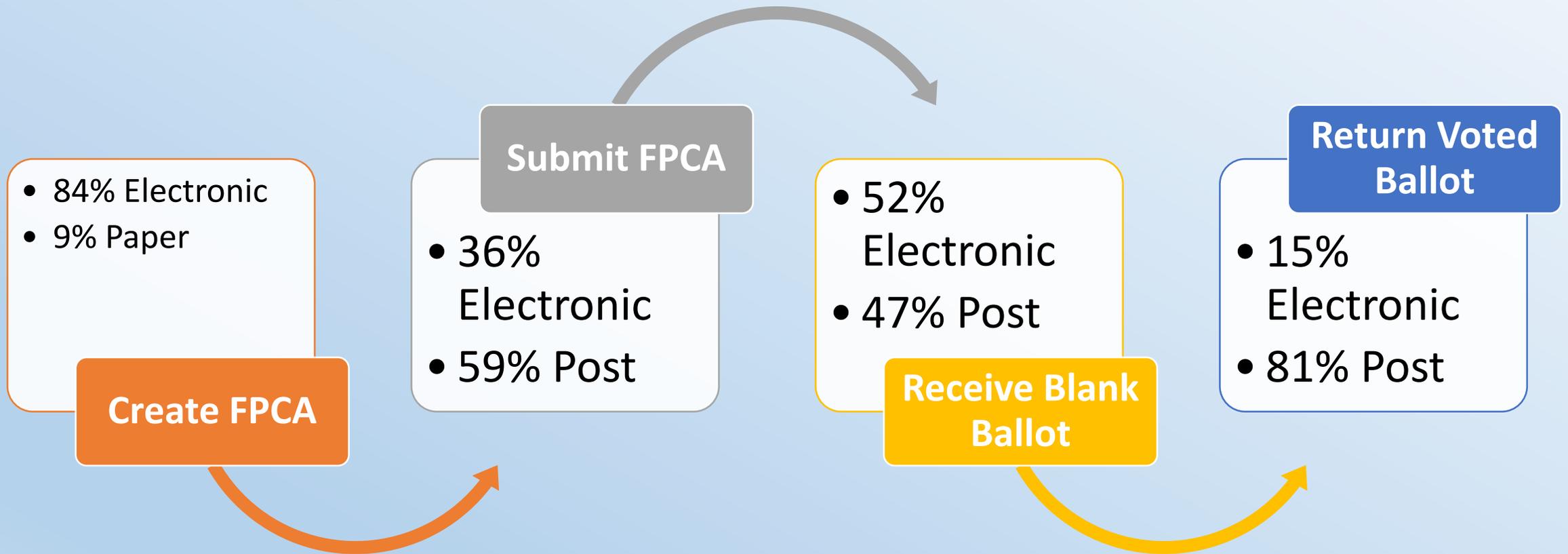
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- FWAB confusion – 1/3 of FWABs are rejected

Voting Process Overview



What we know

- Return of UOCAVA ballots is up this year
 - likely due to experience and education
- ***Electronic blank ballot instructions are confusing***
 - ***“Ph.D. in origami”***
- ***Wide variation in state election laws are confusing***
 - ***Deadline for received ballot (E + 0, E+ 5, E+10)***
 - ***FWAB acceptance (FPCA)***

Recommendations

- Electronic ballot delivery and mail tracking
- Extended ballot receipt time
- Electronic ballot return
- FWAB as dual-purpose document
- Extended ballot pre-processing time
- Flexibility for local election officials
- Proxy administration (in limited cases)
- Overseas and military voter education (FVAP & States)

Data Collection

- Differentiate between overseas and domestic military
- Post-election survey validation study

UOCAVA

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