



Overseas Voting **Frequently Asked Questions**

Q: How soon can I send in my FPCA? Now?

A: We recommend sending in your FPCA on or after January 1st of each year (unless voting in an early Presidential Primary - See previous page), and every time you change your name, mailing address, or email address.

Q: I plan to vote absentee from abroad in the primary elections, but will be back in the United States for the November general elections? Do I have to do anything special?

A: When you fill out your FPCA, include a note to your local election officials that you'll be returning to the United States on xxx date. Once you are back home, contact your local election officials to confirm your new U.S. address and your intention to vote in the United States.

Q: I'm a U.S. citizen but I've never lived in the United States. Can I vote?

A: Each state has its own residency requirements relating to voter eligibility. Some states allow voters who have never lived in the United States to use their parents' state of voting residence. It's best to get in touch with local election officials in the place where your parents last lived, or the place where you have visited frequently, to find out if you are eligible to register to vote. FVAP's Voting Assistance Guide will have a section titled **Voting by Citizens Who Have Never Lived in the U.S.** if the state has passed laws allowing these citizens to vote.

Q: I haven't lived in the United States for a long time, and don't know what our address was? Can I vote in any state? What do I do?

A: All voting in the United States is based on your residency. Normally, you'd use the address where you last lived before leaving the United States, even if it was a very long time ago. Someone in your family may have old letters which contain an address. You can also check medical, church, school, or property records, or write to the Social Security Administration.

Q: What effect does voting have on my U.S. taxes?

A: U.S. citizens have an obligation to file federal tax returns wherever they live. Voting for candidates for federal offices does not affect your federal or state tax liability. Voting for candidates for state or local offices could affect your state tax liability. Consult legal counsel if you have questions.

Contact American Citizen Services

ACSPRG@state.gov

<http://prague.usembassy.gov>

420-257-022-000

Open 8:30AM -12:00 PM Monday through Friday

By appointment only (except for emergencies)

U.S. Embassy Prague



NEW HAMPSHIRE, SOUTH CAROLINA, FLORIDA, MISSOURI, ARIZONA, & MICHIGAN VOTERS - SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION AND BALLOT REQUEST FORM FOR THE UPCOMING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2012 PRIMARIES

Submit your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) NOW to ensure you have the opportunity to vote in the upcoming early Presidential Primary Elections:

- **New Hampshire:** January 10, 2012
- **South Carolina:** January 21, 2012
- **Florida:** January 31, 2012
- **Missouri:** February 7, 2012
- **Arizona:** February 28, 2012
- **Michigan:** February 28, 2012

Go to FVAP.gov and get started! Register to Vote and Request Your Ballot Now!

These States allow you to submit your FPCA now in 2011 so that you receive your State ballot and return it in time to be counted for these primaries.

HOWEVER! To ensure you are eligible to vote in other 2012 elections, including the General Presidential election, you must submit an FPCA AGAIN in January of 2012!

All citizens residing outside the U.S. who are residents from these States should submit an FPCA for these elections by going to FVAP.gov or by following the instructions in the [Voting Assistance Guide](#), also available at FVAP.gov.

Be sure you include a phone and/or fax number and an email address on your absentee ballot application in case your local election official needs to contact you. And, remember, many States allow you to submit your form electronically, and deliver your ballot electronically or provide online ballot access. Go to FVAP.gov or your State's election website to see how you can return your form. You can find your State's website at FVAP's web portal: <http://www.fvap.gov/reference/links.html>.

To find out the status of your registration/absentee ballot request, contact your local election office at <http://www.fvap.gov/shortcuts/wheresendfpc.html>, or visit your State website.

The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)

The FWAB is a backup ballot. If 30 days before the election you think you will not receive your State ballot in time to vote and return it, vote the FWAB! Go to FVAP.gov and get started! You may also submit the FWAB any time after submitting an FPCA.

