



## Absentee Voting Week is October 1-8, 2022



Be an Active Voter by taking the necessary steps to vote in the 2022 U.S. elections and participating in Absentee Voting Week!

**In some states voter registration and ballot request deadlines for the November 2022 are as early as October 5<sup>th</sup>.** Whether you are a first-time voter or have already received ballots and voted absentee in past elections, we recommend that you complete a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) **each year** to ensure you are able to participate in elections as an overseas absentee voter.

If you have already completed a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) in 2022 and requested electronic delivery of your ballot, you will be receiving your blank ballot or instructions for how to access your ballot soon if you have not already received it. If you are not sure about the status of your absentee ballot request, you should contact your [local election officials](#) in the United States or check the status of your registration via your state's voter [registration verification website](#).

You can get voting assistance from the embassy or drop off your completed voting forms and ballots, addressed to your local election officials, during the following hours:

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. (excluding U.S. and Tajikistan holidays) through October 24. An appointment to drop off your ballot is not necessary. For voting assistance, U.S. citizens can contact the embassy at [VoteDushanbe@state.gov](mailto:VoteDushanbe@state.gov) to request an appointment.

### **HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OVERSEAS VOTING**

Please help spread the word to your friends, family, and colleagues that now is the time to start thinking about overseas voting. Consider posting to your Twitter, Instagram, Facebook or other social media account that you are an active voter and will be dropping off or mailing your Federal Post Card Application or completed ballot. Use **#ProudOverseasVoter** to help get the word out about voting.

**If you have never voted while overseas before, it is not too late. The process is easy – just follow these steps:**

#### **1. Complete a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)**

Whether you are a first-time voter or have voted absentee in past elections, we recommend that you complete an [FPCA](#) to receive your ballot this fall. It allows you to register to vote and request absentee ballots for all elections for federal offices (presidential and state primaries, run-off, special, and the November general elections) during the course of the year in which you submit the FPCA. Local election officials in all U.S. states and territories accept the [FPCA](#).

The [online voting assistant](#) available at [FVAP.gov](#) is an easy way to complete the [FPCA](#). It will ask you questions specific to your state and tell you if electronic ballot delivery is possible. No matter which state you vote in, **we encourage you to ask your local election officials to deliver your blank ballots to you electronically** (by email, internet download, or fax, depending on your state). Be sure to include your email address to take advantage of electronic delivery. The [online voting assistant](#) will generate a printable [FPCA](#), which you can then print and sign.

## **2. Submit the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)**

Through October 24, the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe will accept absentee ballots Monday through Friday (excluding U.S. and Tajikistan holidays) from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. You do not need to make an appointment to drop off your ballot.

If it's more convenient for you, you can have a friend or family member drop off your FPCA at the Embassy, on your behalf or you can send your [FPCA](#) or ballot directly to your local election officials via international mail or professional courier service at your own expense.

## **3. Receive Your Ballot**

After submitting your FPCA, most states allow you to confirm online your registration and ballot delivery selection. States are now required to send out ballots 45 days before an election (September 24) for federal office (President, U.S. Senate, or U.S. House of Representatives) to any overseas U.S. citizen who has completed an FPCA.

## **4. Return Your Ballot**

**We recommend that if you plan to return your paper ballot to your election officials via the U.S. embassy/consulate, please return your ballot to them by October 24 to account for transit times between overseas posts and local voting districts.** If you wish to drop off your ballot, or have a friend or colleague drop it off for you, place it in either a postage-paid envelope or envelope bearing domestic U.S. postage addressed to your local election officials. You can download the [postage paid envelope](#) from the [FVAP.gov website](#).

If there isn't enough time to receive and send back your ballot before the election, [use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot \(FWAB\)](#). It is a backup ballot you can use if you don't receive your ballot in a timely manner. If your official absentee ballot arrives after sending in the FWAB, fill out and send in the official ballot too. Only one will be counted.

After you send in your ballot, you can [check if it was received by your election office](#).

## **Your Vote Counts**

Many U.S. elections within the past ten years have been decided by a margin of victory of less than 0.1%. All states are required to count every absentee ballot as long as it is valid and reaches local election officials by the absentee ballot receipt deadline (differs by state).

Be an educated voter. Check out the [FVAP links page](#) for helpful resources that will aid your research of candidates and issues. You can also read national and hometown newspapers online and search the Internet to locate articles and information.

To receive information by email about election dates and deadlines, subscribe to FVAP's Voting Alerts ([vote@fvap.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.gov)). FVAP also shares Voting Alerts via [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

If you have any questions about registering to vote overseas, please contact Dushanbe's Voting Assistance Officer at +992 37-229-2300, or at [VoteDushanbe@state.gov](mailto:VoteDushanbe@state.gov).

**Assistance:**

- U.S. Embassy Dushanbe  
109 A Ismoil Somoni Ave.  
Dushanbe, Tajikistan  
+992 (37) 229 20 00  
+992 (37) 229 20 50  
[DushanbeConsular@state.gov](mailto:DushanbeConsular@state.gov)
- State Department – [Bureau of Consular Affairs](#)  
+1-888-407-4747 (toll-free in the United States and Canada)  
+1-202-501-4444 (from other countries)
- [Tajikistan Country Specific Information](#)
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security updates
- Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)