WEST VIRGINIA

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is the primary form for requesting registration and/or an absentee ballot from your local election official. Read all instructions printed below and on the FPCA before completing and signing your application.

FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

APPLICATION FOR STATE OF _____ COUNTY OF _____ CITY OR TOWNSHIP OF _____ §

I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION (See instruction 1.)

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) | b. SEX | c. RACE

d. DATE OF BIRTH M M D D Y Y | e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER – – | A | f. OTHER IDENTIFICATION NO. (passport, ID card)

2. I LAST VOTED or PLACE OF LAST REGISTRATION (Do not leave this section blank. See instructions.)

a. YEAR | b. COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNSHIP | B | c. STATE | d. VOTER REGISTRATION NO. (if known)

3. VOTING RESIDENCE (For military, legal residence. For overseas civilians, last residence in U.S. IF USING RURAL ROUTE, SEE INSTRUCTIONS.)

a. LAST DAY OF RESIDENCY M M D D Y Y

b. NUMBER AND STREET (do not use Post Office Box)

c. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE | C | d. STATE

e. COUNTY OR PARISH | f. ZIP CODE (9-digit, if known)

4. MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOT TO: (Mailing address where you want the ballot to be sent.)

D

5. YOUR FAX NUMBER (If this application is faxed, include all international prefixes. See Instructions.)

6. POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION (This information is required by most states to send you a ballot for primary elections. See instructions.) E

7. REMARKS (Provide additional information which will assist local election officials in determining your eligibility to register and vote. See instructions.)

8. AFFIRMATION BY APPLICANT F

X only one: a, b, c or d

I swear/affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I am: (See instructions)

- a. a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty, or an eligible spouse or dependent.
- b. a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S.
- c. a U.S. citizen overseas by virtue of employment or accompanying spouse or dependent.
- d. other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S.

e. I am a U.S. Citizen, eligible to vote in the above jurisdiction, and subscribe to any required state/local oath or statement.

f. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated.

g. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S.

h. The information on this form is true and complete.

i. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT G | j. DATE M M D D Y Y

9. WITNESS/NOTARY ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE (If required by state law) | DATE SIGNED M M D D Y Y

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.

Application Instructions

Circled letters on the form above correspond to the instructions below. You must complete all shaded areas.

A Your West Virginia Driver's License or the last four digits of your Social Security number is required for voter registration. If you do not possess either of these identifications, the State shall assign a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes.

B Do not leave blank. Enter "NA" if not applicable or if you are a first time voter.

C Provide the complete street address of your West Virginia voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location. For example: "2 miles up Low Gap Creek from Highway 11." This address must be different from the one provided in Item 4 and must be within the county or township where you claim legal voting residence.

D Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent — usually your current mailing address. The address used must be out of the county of your residence (Item 3).

E If you do not list a party affiliation, you will vote a nonpartisan ballot in primary elections. You must indicate your political party affiliation when applying for a primary ballot (Example: Democrat, Republican) or write "none" in Item 6 of the FPCA. (Since 1988, the Republican Party has allowed "no party affiliation voters" to vote in its primary election by requesting a Republican ballot. The Democratic Party allows only registered Democrats to vote in its primary election.) Political party affiliation is not required if only requesting absentee ballots for general elections. If you are currently registered and want to change your political party affiliation or you have previously declined to indicate a political party and you now want to vote in a partisan primary election, you must submit a completed FPCA which includes your new political party affiliation to the local election official not later than 20 days before the election.

F Check ONE box.

G Sign and date the FPCA. When signing, you are swearing or affirming that the information is true and correct.

I. UNIFORMED SERVICES

A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of West Virginia and members of the Uniformed Services and their family members. Uniformed Services are defined as the U.S. Armed Forces, merchant marine, commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Persons who are not West Virginia residents are not eligible as a result of their spouses' residence.

B. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You should send an FPCA to your local election official early every year and whenever you change your mailing address (see Chapter 2 of this *Guide*).

To register to vote, send a completed FPCA to the Clerk of the County Commission so that it is received not later than the 20th day before the election.

If you are already registered to vote and only wish to request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA so that it arrives not earlier than January 1st or 84 days before the election (whichever is earlier) and not later than the sixth day before the election.

C. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Your ballot will be counted if it is received through the mail before the start of canvassing which occurs on the Friday following a primary and 5 days after a general or special election.

The clerk mails out absentee ballots beginning 42 days before an election.

You may also use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. See instructions below.

D. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

E. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- West Virginia allows you to send the FPCA for absentee ballot by fax. If you are registering to vote, the original form must also be mailed.
- West Virginia does not allow you to receive the blank ballot by fax.
- West Virginia does not allow you to return the voted ballot by fax.

Please refer to Appendix C for specific instructions when transmitting election materials electronically. Use the following numbers:

DSN 223-5527
(703) 693-5527
1-800-368-8683

Additional international toll-free fax numbers are listed on the inside back cover.

F. Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

If you are outside the U.S. and have not received your state ballot in a timely manner, use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186).

West Virginia has expanded the use of the FWAB. The instructions described in Chapter 2 of this *Guide* remain the same, except that West Virginia also allows the FWAB to be used in all Federal, state and local elections.

Use the FWAB only in accordance with the instructions described in Chapter 2 and only in those elections mentioned above. Otherwise, your ballot will not be counted.

Instructions continue in Section III: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

II. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of West Virginia and overseas electors. The term "overseas elector" means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in West Virginia. Persons who are not West Virginia residents are not eligible as a result of their spouses' residence.

- residents of West Virginia temporarily residing outside the U.S. (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- overseas electors

B. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You should send an FPCA to your local election official early every year and whenever you change your mailing address (see Chapter 2 of this *Guide*).

Notify Your Local Election Official About Your Current Mailing Address

To register to vote, send a completed FPCA to the Clerk of the County Commission so that it has a U.S. postmark date not later than the 20th day before the election.

If you are already registered to vote and only wish to request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA so that it arrives not earlier than January 1st or 84 days before the election (whichever is earlier) and not later than the sixth day before the election.

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Use the FWAB only in accordance with the instructions described in Chapter 2 of this *Guide* and only in those elections mentioned above. Otherwise, your ballot will not be counted.

Instructions continue in Section III: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

III. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

A. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons convicted of a felony, treason or election bribery and persons found of unsound mind may not vote.

B. Cancellation of Registration

If a voter does not respond to a confirmation notice, the voter is identified as inactive. If a voter does not vote or otherwise update registration after two general elections following notice, registration is canceled.

C. Action on Registration Requests

A registration receipt is sent. Incomplete applications are returned.

D. Action If Registration Is Denied

Persons denied registration may appeal to the county commission. Consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel. Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, West Virginia shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection.

E. Voting By Citizens Who Have Never Lived in the U.S.

A U.S. citizen who was born abroad and who is eligible to vote and who has never lived in the U.S. may register and vote in the county where either parent would be eligible to register and vote.

F. Where To Send It

If you are registering and/or applying for an absentee ballot, mail the FPCA to the Clerk of the County Commission, county of voting residence, as listed below:

County	County Seat	Zip Code
Barbour	Philippi	26416-1154
Berkeley	Martinsburg	25401-3210
Boone	Madison	25130-1189
Braxton	Sutton	26601-1313
Brooke	Wellsburg	26070-0474
Cabell	Huntington	25701-0545
Calhoun	Grantsville	26147-0266
Clay	Clay	25043-0129
Doddridge	West Union	26456-1297
Fayette	Fayetteville	25840-1517
Gilmer	Glenville	26351-1246
Grant	Petersburg	26847-1795

County	County Seat	Zip Code
Greenbrier	Lewisburg	24901-0751
Hampshire	Romney	26757-1696
Hancock	New Cumberland	26047-0428
Hardy	Moorefield	26836-1155
Harrison	Clarksburg	26301-2967
Jackson	Ripley	25271-0427
Jefferson	Charles Town	25414-1072
Kanawha	Charleston	25301-2500
Lewis	Weston	26452-0069
Lincoln	Hamlin	25523-1419
Logan	Logan	25601-3939
McDowell	Welch	24801-0400
Marion	Fairmont	26554-1269
Marshall	Moundsville	26041-2129
Mason	Point Pleasant	25550-1131
Mercer	Princeton	24740-2626
Mineral	Keyser	26726-3597
Mingo	Williamson	25661-0435
Monongalia	Morgantown	26505-5427
Monroe	Union	24983-0350
Morgan	Berkeley Springs	25411-1501
Nicholas	Summersville	26651-1489
Ohio	Wheeling	26003-3592
Pendleton	Franklin	26807-0089
Pleasants	St. Marys	26170-1317
Pocahontas	Marlinton	24954-1394
Preston	Kingwood	26537-1121
Putnam	Winfield	25213-0358
Raleigh	Beckley	25802-4688
Randolph	Elkins	26241-4099
Ritchie	Harrisville	26362-1271
Roane	Spencer	25276-0122
Summers	Hinton	25951-1058
Taylor	Grafton	26354-1387
Tucker	Parsons	26287-1235
Tyler	Middlebourne	26149-0008
Upshur	Buckhannon	26201-2259
Wayne	Wayne	25570-0038
Webster	Webster Springs	26288-1095
Wetzel	New Martinsville	26155-0263
Wirt	Elizabeth	26143-0465
Wood	Parkersburg	26101-5353
Wyoming	Pineville	24874-9802

Make Your Freedom Count! Vote!

by SSgt Fred G. Woodruff, USAF, Travis AFB, California