# HOW TO VOTE FROM ABROAD



As a US citizen studying abroad you can register to vote & request an overseas absentee ballot. Using <a href="students.votefromabroad.org">students.votefromabroad.org</a> you will complete & return an overseas ballot request called an FPCA. This will ensure that your state will send your ballot by email to you at least 45 days before the election — a protection not guaranteed when using other forms.



### WHAT YOU WILL NEED

The last four digits of your social security number or the number of a stateissued id such as a driver's license

Your home address and zip code back in the USA. This can be your parents' address or the address of the last place you lived in the US before coming abroad.

Your overseas address. Usually, students use the address associated with their University or Study Abroad program.

## REGISTER TO VOTE AND REQUEST YOUR OVERSEAS BALLOT

- 1. From your smartphone, computer or tablet, go to https://students.votefromabroad.org
- 2. Select your voting state, then click Register and/or request my ballot
- 3. Click next. You will begin the process of filling out the FPCA
- 4. Step 1 of 5 fill in your identifying & current contact details
- 5. Step 2 of 5 fill in your voting address information.
  - -This is your home address back in the US including the county.
  - -The jurisdiction this is usually the country where the address lies
  - -Click I intend to return
  - -Request that your overseas ballot be sent to you by email
- 6. Step 3 of 5 fill in your identification.
- 7. Step 4 of 5 check your form to make sure it's correct.
- 8. Step 5 of 5 sign your form.
  - -If you're using a smartphone or tablet, you can use the tool to take a picture of your signature. Click Yes I want to sign now
- -Or, you can print out the form, sign it, then scan and send it to your local Election office. You will be provided with the address where to send the form.

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#### **NOTES**

If you have not previously registered to vote in the US, depending on your state, you may need to print out the FPCA, sign it and send the hard copy to your local election office by postal mail.

If you are already registered to vote, you can complete the ballot request process on your smartphone and email the form to your local election office.

In both cases, after you submit your form, you should check with your local election office that they have received the form. You can find the contact information on the completed FPCA.

#### FILL OUT AND SEND IN YOUR BALLOT WHEN IT ARRIVES

As an overseas voter, you should receive your ballot by email 45 days before the election. For elections held in November, this is usually towards the end of September.

Vote and send back your ballot as soon as you receive it. Check your state's deadlines and requirements for how to return your ballot. https://www.votefromabroad.org/states/

If you requested your ballot but haven't received it, contact your election office to ask about the status of your ballot request.

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 works like a backup ballot. 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. https://www.votefromabroad.org/faqs/BB1

After you send in your ballot, you can <u>check if it was received by your election</u> <u>office</u>.



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