







# Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB)

## Instructions for Voter's Declaration /Affirmation

A quicker, easier to complete, electronic version of this form is also available on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov). For any questions about this form, consult your Voting Assistance Officer or the Voting Assistance Guide available in hard copy or on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov).

The **gray** numbers and instructions below correspond to the **gray** numbered boxes on the face of the form.

- 1** In most States, you must have registered and requested an absentee ballot from your voting jurisdiction to use this form. If you have not done this, you cannot use this form unless your State allows voter registration via the FWAB. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) to see if your State accepts this form to register to vote. If your State does not allow you to register to vote using this form and you have not already submitted a Federal Post Card Application or registered/requested an absentee ballot by other means, your FWAB will not be counted.
- 2** The classification you choose will determine in which election(s) you will be allowed to vote. Choose the one that best represents your current situation.
- 3** The information you enter for your name should match the information you used to register to vote. The local election official who receives this form will match this to your voter registration information.
- 4** While most States allow you to enter either your driver's license number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number, some will invalidate this form without your full SSN. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) to see if your State requires the full SSN.

Also, many States ask that you provide your race or ethnic group in order to demonstrate that they are complying with the Voting Rights Act and the National Voter Registration Act

- 5** If there are questions about your form, local election officials will use this information to contact you. An email address is the simplest and fastest way for them to do so. Your voting materials will be sent to the email address(es) that you provide here if you request it and your State allows it. Include an alternate phone number in Box 9 if necessary.
- 6** If you want to vote in primary elections, most States require you to specify a political party. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) to see if your State requires you to specify a political party.
- 7** This determines the jurisdiction where you vote. For military voters the voting address is your legal U.S. residence. For overseas citizens this is usually the U.S. address where you last lived. You do not need to have any current physical ties to this address. Do not use a post office box number. If the area has no street names, enter the route number and box number. The address you enter here must match the address you used when you requested an absentee ballot.
- 8** Enter the address where you want voting materials to be sent to you. Voting materials will be sent to this address unless you enter a forwarding address in Box 9.
- 9** Enter anything here that would help ensure that your ballot is accepted. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) for anything your State may specifically require here. If you want your voting materials to be sent somewhere other than where you live now, enter that alternate (forwarding) address here. Provide an alternate phone number here.

**Affirmation.** Read this carefully. It is what you are agreeing to under oath and penalty of perjury by filling out and sending in this form. Some States require that your form be witnessed. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) for your State's requirements.

## Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot

To vote, write in either a candidate's name or a political party for each office. Your State may allow you to vote in State and local elections in the Addendum section of this ballot. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) to find out in which elections you can vote using this form.

Some States allow you to send your Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot electronically. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) to see if your State allows this.

To return by mail, fold the ballot. Put it in a blank envelope, seal the envelope, and mark it "Security Envelope." This security envelope keeps your vote private.

Put the security envelope and the Declaration / Affirmation form into a larger envelope together. Seal the larger envelope.

To send your ballot:

- For non-U.S. mailing, put the correct amount of local postage in the top right corner on the front of the large envelope.
- In the upper left corner, enter your current complete military or overseas mailing address.
- Under "To," enter the name and mailing address of the local election official to whom you are sending the packet. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on [FVAP.gov](https://fvap.gov) for the correct address. It must be the same address where you sent your request for an absentee ballot.

## Privacy Act Statement

**Authority:** The authority to collect your personal information on this form comes from 42 USC 1973ff, "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)."

**Principal Purpose:** This form serves as a Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot for elections for Federal office or other elections provided by State law or special provisions for all persons covered by UOCAVA.

**Disclosure:** Your disclosure of personal information is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information may result in the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot not being recognized and therefore not counted.