

Delaware

http://electionsncc.delaware.gov/absentee_de/

DEADLINES	State Primary September 14, 2010	General Election November 2, 2010
Registration	August 30, 2010	October 18, 2010
Ballot Request	September 10, 2010	October 29, 2010
Ballot Return	8 pm, September 14, 2010	8 pm, November 2, 2010

Information is current as of July 2009. Check www.fvap.gov for updates.

Registering and Requesting Your Absentee Ballot

Complete the Following Blocks of the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA):

Block 1: Select the category that describes you.

Block 2.a: Name (Last, First, Middle)

Block 2.e: Date of Birth

Blocks 2.f and 2.g: Your valid Delaware Driver's License number OR your complete Social Security number is required for voter registration. If you do not possess either of these identification numbers, the State shall assign a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes.

Blocks 2.h through 2.j: Recommended but not required. Provide your contact information to allow your local election official to follow up if more information is required.

Blocks 3.a through 3.e: Complete street address of your Delaware voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Block 6. This address must be within the county where you claim legal voting residence.

Block 4.a: Complete address where you want your ballot sent, usually where you live now.

Block 4.c: Delaware allows you to receive the blank ballot by mail, fax or email. Check how you would like to receive your absentee ballot. Provide your fax number or email address in Block 2. If you do not make a selection, then your local election official will mail your ballot to you.

Block 5: To vote in primary elections, you must enter your political party affiliation. If you want to change your political party affiliation, submit a completed FPCA

indicating your new party preference to the local election official. There are two periods during which you may not change your political party affiliation: from November 1 in the year before a general Presidential election through the day of the Presidential primary, and from March 31 in the year of the general election through the day of the primary election. Political party affiliation is not required if only requesting absentee ballots for general elections.

Block 6: Submission of this form serves as a request to receive ballots for all Federal elections held through the next two regularly scheduled general elections. If you do not wish to receive ballots for that length of time, you may request a ballot for each election for Federal office held in the next election year OR a ballot for only the next scheduled election for Federal office by noting your choice here.

In addition to mailing a regular ballot, Delaware provides a Special Write-In Absentee Ballot up to 90 days before the general election to any voter unable to vote in the regular absentee voting process due to the requirements of military service or other contingencies. This ballot allows you to vote for local, State and Federal offices. To request it, write in Block 6: "I am unable to vote by regular absentee ballot or in person due to requirements of military service. I request a special write-in ballot."

Provide any information that may assist the local election official in accepting this application.

Block 7: Sign and date. No witness or notary required.

How and Where to Submit Your FPCA:

Delaware allows you to submit the FPCA by mail, fax, or email.

If you choose to mail your FPCA, mail the form directly to your local election office. Addresses can be found at the end of this section.

If you choose to fax your FPCA, it is recommended that you fax the form directly to your local election official. Fax numbers can be found at <http://elections.delaware.gov/locations.shtml>. You may also use the DoD Electronic Transmission Service to fax your FPCA toll-free. To use the Electronic Transmission Service, use the cover sheet available in Chapter 1 or at www.fvap.gov, and fax to: (703)-693-5527, DSN 223-5527, or toll-free from the U.S., Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands to 1-800-368-8683. International toll-free numbers can be found on the inside back cover or at www.fvap.gov.

If you choose to email your FPCA, you should send the form as an attachment. Email directly to your local election office. Email addresses can be found at <http://elections.delaware.gov/locations.shtml>.

Follow-Up on Your FPCA

To find out the status of your registration/absentee ballot request, contact your local election office by phone, email, or fax or refer to Delaware's voter registration verification website at: <http://pollingplace.delaware.gov/>.

Your jurisdiction will contact you if your application is denied.

Late Registration

Uniformed Service members, their families, and overseas citizens who return to the U.S. within 60 days of an election and establish residence in Delaware can register to vote after the registration deadline. Contact your local election office for more information.

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

A U.S. Citizen who was born abroad and has never lived in the U.S. may register and vote in the Delaware county where a parent would be eligible to register and vote (for Federal offices only).

Voting Your Ballot

Local election officials send ballots approximately 30 days before primary elections and 45 days before general elections.

Voted ballots must be received by your local election office no later than 8 pm on election day.

You may return the voted ballot by mail, fax, or email in accordance with the instructions sent with the ballot. No witness or notary is required on voted ballots.

Haven't Received Your Ballot? Don't Wait Until It's Too Late. . . Use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot!

Delaware allows you to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for registration and voting in any election for Federal, State, and local offices. Feel free to use the FWAB to vote anytime before an election.

Complete the Following Blocks of the FWAB's Voter Declaration/ Affirmation:

Block 1.a: Select the category that describes you.

Block 1.b: Delaware does allow you to use this form for registration.

Block 2.a: Name (Last, First, Middle)

Block 2.e: Date of Birth

Blocks 2.f and 2.g: Enter your valid Delaware Driver's License number, your complete Social Security number, OR your State voter registration number.

Blocks 2.h through 2.j: Recommended but not required. Provide your contact information to allow your local election official to follow up if more information is required.

Blocks 3.a through 3.e: Complete street address of your Delaware voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Block 6. This address must be within the county where you claim legal voting residence.

Block 4.a: Enter your current mailing address.

Block 5: Enter your political party affiliation if you are voting in a primary election.

Block 6: Provide any information that may assist the local election official in accepting this ballot or application.

Block 7: Sign and date. No witness or notary required.

Vote Your FWAB:

Vote for any Federal, State, or local office in any election. To find out the races and candidates for which you can vote, go to http://electionsncc.delaware.gov/absentee_de/. For each office for which you vote, write in either a candidate's name or a political party designation. If voting in a primary election, you must write in the name of a candidate. Once the ballot is complete, fold and place it in the security

envelope and seal. Place only the voted ballot in the security envelope and do not write on the security envelope.

How and Where to Submit Your FWAB:

If using the FWAB simultaneously as a registration form and voted ballot, it must be received by the local election office by the registration deadline.

If using the FWAB as a voted ballot only, it must be received by the local election office by the ballot return deadline. If you receive the regular ballot after submitting the voted FWAB, you may also vote and return the regular ballot. If both ballots are received by the deadline, only the regular ballot will be counted.

Delaware allows you to submit the FWAB by mail, fax, or email.

Insert the sealed security envelope and the Voter's Declaration/Affirmation into the mailing envelope and mail your FWAB directly to your local election official. If you choose to fax your FWAB, fax it directly to your local election official. Fax numbers for election officials can be found at <http://elections.delaware.gov/>. Include ballot, voter affirmation, and cover sheet with secrecy waiver. You may also use the DoD Electronic Transmission Service to fax your FWAB toll-free. To use the Electronic Transmission

Service, use the cover sheet available in Chapter 1 or at www.fvap.gov, and fax to: (703)-693-5527, DSN 223-5527, or toll-free from the U.S., Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands to 1-800-368-8683. International toll-free numbers can be found on the inside back cover or at www.fvap.gov.

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Local Election Office Addresses

County	Mailing Address
New Castle	Department of Elections for New Castle County 820 N. French Street, Suite 400 Wilmington, DE 19801-3531
Kent	Department of Elections for Kent County 100 Enterprise Pl, Suite 5 Dover, DE 19904- 8202
Sussex	Department of Elections for Sussex County PO Box 457 Georgetown, DE 19947-0457

It Really Does Matter. . . Please Vote!

by Kevin J. Koepke, US Air Force

