

**U.S. Embassy Skopje, North Macedonia (September 20, 2022)
Message for U.S. Citizens: 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 5th. 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 U.S. Embassy or drop off your completed voting forms and ballots, addressed to your local election officials, during our regular American Citizen Services hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm.

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)**

At the U.S. Embassy in Skopje, you can drop your ballot off during our regular American Citizen Services hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm.

If it's more convenient for you, you can have a friend or family member drop off your FPCA at the U.S. 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 8 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](#) (Insert post-specific instructions for how voters can submit forms and ballots to the consular section to be returned to the United States via unclassified pouch.)

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). FVAP also shares Voting Alerts via [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

If you have any questions about registering to vote overseas, please contact the U.S. Embassy Skopje's voting Assistance Officer at VoteSkopje@state.gov.

Remember, your vote counts!

Assistance:

- U.S. Embassy Skopje, North Macedonia
+ (389) 2-310-2000
SkopjeACS@state.gov

<http://mk.usembassy.gov>

- State Department - Consular Affairs
888-407-4747 or 202-501-4444
- [North Macedonia Country Information](#)
- Enroll in [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security updates
- Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).