

# CALIFORNIA

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

SAMPLE FORM

| 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.  |                                |
| <b>1. APPLICANT INFORMATION</b> (See instruction 1.)   |  | <b>6. POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION</b> (This information is required by most states to send you a ballot for primary elections. See instructions.) <b>E</b>            |                                |
| a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) _____ b. SEX _____ c. RACE _____  |  | <b>7. REMARKS</b> (Provide additional information which will assist local election officials in determining your eligibility to register and vote. See instructions.) |                                |
| d. DATE OF BIRTH _____ e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____ f. OTHER IDENTIFICATION NO. (passport, ID card) _____ <b>A</b>                              |  |   |                                |
| <b>2. I LAST VOTED or PLACE OF LAST REGISTRATION</b> (Do not leave this section blank. See instructions.)  |  |   |                                |
| a. YEAR _____ b. COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNSHIP _____ c. STATE _____ d. VOTER REGISTRATION NO. (if known) _____ <b>B</b>                                |  |   |                                |
| <b>3. VOTING RESIDENCE</b> (For military, legal residence. For overseas civilians, last residence in U.S. IF USING RURAL ROUTE, SEE INSTRUCTIONS.) |  |   | a. LAST DAY OF RESIDENCY _____ |
| b. NUMBER AND STREET (do not use Post Office Box) _____  |  |   |                                |
| c. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE _____ <b>C</b>  |  |   | d. STATE _____                 |
| e. COUNTY OR PARISH _____  |  | f. ZIP CODE (9-digit, if known) _____   |                                |
| <b>4. MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOT TO:</b> (Mailing address where you want the ballot to be sent.)   |  |   |                                |
| _____ <b>D</b>   |  |   |                                |
| _____  |  |   |                                |
| _____  |  |   |                                |
| _____  |  |   |                                |
| <b>5. YOUR FAX NUMBER</b> (If this application is faxed, include all international prefixes. See Instructions.)                                    |  | <b>8. AFFIRMATION BY APPLICANT</b> <b>F</b>   |                                |
| _____  |  | X only one: a, b, c or d<br>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 <b>G</b>  |                                |
|  |  | j. DATE _____   |                                |
|  |  | DATE SIGNED _____   |                                |
|  |  | M M D D Y Y   |                                |
|  |  | M M D D Y Y   |                                |
|  |  | <b>9. WITNESS/NOTARY ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE</b> (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** The last four digits of your Social Security number or your California Driver’s License 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 “N/A” if not applicable or if you are a first time voter.
- C** Provide the complete street address of your California voting residence. A post office box is not acceptable. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location. For example: “on Highway \_\_\_\_\_, 2 miles past Highway \_\_\_\_\_, across the street from the \_\_\_\_\_ gas station.” This address must be different from the one provided in Item 4 and must be within the county where you claim legal voting residence.
- D** Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent — usually your current mailing address. Your current mailing address must be different from the address you provided in Item 3.

- E** Print the name of the political party (i.e., Democratic, Republican, American Independent, Green, Libertarian, Natural Law or Peace and Freedom), write “Decline to State,” or write in the name of a non-qualified political body. If you do not complete Item 6, you will be registered “Decline to State.” California law allows voters who “decline to state” an affiliation with a qualified political party or who affiliate with a non-qualified political party to vote in the primary election of any qualified political party that files a notice with the Secretary of State allowing them to do so. Visit [www.ss.ca.gov](http://www.ss.ca.gov) to learn which political parties are allowing nonaffiliated voters to participate in their primary election. If you are currently registered and want to make changes, you must submit a completed FPCA to your local elections official not later than 15 days before the election.
- F** Check ONE box.
- G** You must 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 Alaska 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.

### 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).

If you are an **unregistered citizen**, complete and sign the FPCA and return it to the county election official. It must be received not later than 15 days before the election.

If you are **already registered**, you may use the FPCA form or submit a letter to the county election official to request a full ballot (local, state, Federal offices). Your request must be received not later than 7 days before the election.

If you **send a letter**, you must provide your name as registered, voting residence address, address to which the absentee ballot should be sent, and the name and date of the election. You must sign and date the letter.

### C. Casting Your Vote

**Ballot Return Deadline:** Return your voted ballot so that it arrives at the county elections office by the **close of polls (8:00 p.m.) on election day**.

Local election officials begin mailing ballots approximately 29 days before the election.

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**. See instructions in Chapter 2, page 12.

### D. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

### E. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- California allows you to send the FPCA application for registration and absentee ballot by fax. After faxing, submit the FPCA by mail.

- At the discretion of the county elections official, a blank ballot will be faxed.
- California 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. Special Write-In Absentee Ballot

California provides a state special absentee voter ballot if you cannot vote an absentee ballot during the normal absentee voting period because of military or other contingencies which preclude normal mail delivery. This ballot is available 60 days before the election to both registered voters and citizens eligible to vote but not yet registered.

To request this special ballot, place one of the special absentee labels from Section III.G in Item 7 of the FPCA. You must state the reason(s) why you cannot vote using normal mail delivery. If no labels are available, write in Item 7: “I cannot vote an absentee ballot during the normal absentee voting period due to military or other contingencies that preclude normal mail delivery. {Specify reason(s).} I request a special absentee ballot.”

The elections official will provide a list of all the candidates qualified by the 60th day before the election as well as the measures to be voted on. You vote the ballot by writing in the names of the candidates you select.

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 California or overseas citizens. The term “overseas citizen(s)” means a United States citizen who resides outside the United States and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in California.

- California residents temporarily residing outside the U.S.

***Notify Your Local Election Official About Your Current Mailing Address***

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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 who are not U.S. citizens, are not 18 years of age, are currently imprisoned or on parole for a felony conviction or persons judged mentally incompetent, may not register or vote.

### B. Cancellation of Registration

Registration is permanent only when a state Affidavit of Registration is filed with the county elections official. It can be cancelled for specified reasons, including a change of residence address.

### C. Action on Registration Request

When the FPCA is used for registration, notice of acceptance or denial is sent by the elections official.

### D. Action If Registration Is Denied

Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, California shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection. Any person notified that registration has been denied should correct all deficiencies and resubmit the request. If a second denial is received, consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

## E. Late Registration

(1) If a **registered** voter is unable to appear at his/her polling place because of being recalled to service after the final day for applying for an absentee voter's ballot, but before 5 p.m. on the day before the election, he/she may appear before the elections official and apply for an absentee ballot. The ballot may be voted at the official's office or elsewhere and returned before the close of the polls on election day.

(2) Discharged military personnel and civilians outside the U.S. who return to their county of residence following the close of the registration period for the upcoming election may apply in person to the elections official for permission to register and vote in the election. You must provide documentary proof that your release was after the registration closing date.

## F. Where To Send It

Mail FPCA to the voting official in your county of voting residence as listed below.

| County       | Address  | Zip Code   |
|--------------|--|------------|
| Alameda      | Registrar of Voters<br>1225 Fallon St. Room G1<br>Oakland, CA                    | 94612-4229 |
| Alpine       | County Clerk<br>PO Box 158<br>Markleeville, CA                                   | 96120-0158 |
| Amador       | Registrar of Voters<br>500 Argonaut Lane<br>Jackson, CA                          | 95642-9534 |
| Butte        | County Clerk<br>25 County Center Dr.<br>Oroville, CA                             | 95965-3375 |
| Calaveras    | County Clerk, Elections Department<br>891 Mountain Ranch Road<br>San Andreas, CA | 95249-9709 |
| Colusa       | County Clerk-Elections<br>546 Jay St.<br>Colusa, CA                              | 95932      |
| Contra Costa | County Clerk<br>524 Main St.<br>Martinez, CA                                     | 94553-0027 |
| Del Norte    | County Clerk-Recorder-Elections<br>981 H Street Room 160<br>Crescent City, CA    | 95531-3415 |
| El Dorado    | Registrar of Voters<br>2850 Fairlane Ct.<br>Placerville, CA                      | 95667-8001 |
| Fresno       | County Clerk<br>2221 Kern St.<br>Fresno, CA                                      | 93721-2600 |
| Glenn        | County Clerk-Elections<br>516 W. Sycamore St., 2nd Floor<br>Willows, CA          | 95988-2746 |
| Humboldt     | County Clerk-Elections<br>3033 H St., #20<br>Eureka, CA                          | 95501-4483 |
| Imperial     | County Clerk, Courthouse<br>940 W. Main St., Rm.202<br>El Centro, CA             | 92243-2865 |
| Inyo         | County Clerk-Elections<br>168 N. Edwards<br>Independence, CA                     | 93526-0606 |
| Kern         | County Clerk Elections Office<br>1115 Truxtun Avenue<br>Bakersfield, CA          | 93301-4639 |
| Kings        | County Clerk, Government Center<br>1400 W. Lacey Blvd.<br>Hanford, CA            | 93230-5997 |

| County          | Address  | Zip Code   |
|-----------------|--|------------|
| Lake            | County Clerk-Elections<br>255 N. Forbes St., #209<br>Lakeport, CA  | 95453-4748 |
| Lassen          | County Clerk-Elections<br>220 S. Lassen St.<br>Susanville, CA  | 96130-4397 |
| Los Angeles     | Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk<br>12400 Imperial Highway<br>Norwalk, CA   | 90650-8350 |
| Madera          | County Clerk-Elections<br>209 W. Yosemite Ave.<br>Madera, CA   | 93637-3596 |
| Marin           | Marin County Registrar of Voters<br>PO Boc E<br>San Rafael, CA   | 94913      |
| Mariposa        | County Clerk-Elections<br>4982 10th St.<br>Mariposa, CA  | 95338      |
| Mendocino       | County Clerk-Elections<br>501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020<br>Ukiah, CA   | 95482-3738 |
| Merced          | County Clerk-Elections<br>2222 M St., Rm. 14<br>Merced, CA   | 95340-3780 |
| Modoc           | County Clerk-Elections<br>204 Court St.<br>Alturas, CA   | 96101-0131 |
| Mono            | County Clerk-Elections<br>Bryant St. Annex II<br>Bridgeport, CA  | 93517      |
| Monterey        | Monterey County Elections<br>PO Box 4400<br>Salinas, CA  | 93912-4400 |
| Napa            | County Clerk<br>900 Coombs St., Room 256<br>Napa, CA   | 94559-2946 |
| Nevada          | County Clerk<br>10433 Willow Valley Road, Suite E<br>Nevada City, CA   | 95959-2367 |
| Orange          | Registrar of Voters<br>PO Box 11298<br>Santa Ana, CA   | 92711-1298 |
| Placer          | County Registrar of Voters<br>2954 Richardson Dr.<br>Auburn, CA  | 95603      |
| Plumas          | County Clerk<br>520 Main Street, Room 102<br>Quincy, CA  | 95971-9366 |
| Riverside       | Registrar of Voters<br>2724 Gateway Drive<br>Riverside, CA   | 92507-0918 |
| Sacramento      | County of Sacramento<br>Voter Registration and Elections<br>7000 65th Street, Suite A<br>Sacramento, CA 95823-2315 | 95823-2315 |
| San Benito      | County Clerk, Court House<br>440 Fifth St., Room 206<br>Hollister, CA  | 95023-3843 |
| San Bernardino  | Registrar of Voters<br>777 E. Rialto Ave.<br>San Bernardino, CA  | 92415-0770 |
| San Diego       | Registrar of Voters<br>5201 Ruffin Rd, #1<br>San Diego, CA   | 92123      |
| San Francisco   | Elections, City Hall -<br>1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Rm 48<br>San Francisco, CA                              | 94102-4635 |
| San Joaquin     | Registrar of Voters<br>212 N San Joaquin St.<br>Stockton, CA   | 95201      |
| San Luis Obispo | County Clerk-Elections<br>1144 Monterey St., Suite A<br>San Luis Obispo, CA  | 93408-3237 |
| San Mateo       | County Clerk - Registrar<br>40 Tower Rd.<br>San Mateo, CA  | 94402-4098 |

| County        | Address   | Zip Code   |
|---------------|---|------------|
| Santa Barbara | County Clerk-Elections, Courthouse<br>1100 Anacapa St., Basement<br>Santa Barbara, CA | 93101      |
| Santa Clara   | Registrar of Voters<br>1555 Berger Dr., Bldg. 2<br>San Jose, CA                       | 95112      |
| Santa Cruz    | County Clerk<br>701 Ocean St., Rm. 210<br>Santa Cruz, CA                              | 95060-4076 |
| Shasta        | County Clerk-Elections<br>1643 Market Street<br>Redding, CA                           | 96001      |
| Sierra        | County Clerk-Elections<br>PO Drawer D, Courthouse, Rm II<br>Downieville, CA           | 95936-0398 |
| Siskiyou      | County Clerk-Elections<br>311 4th St., Rm 201<br>Yreka, CA                            | 96097      |
| Solano        | Registrar of Voters<br>510 Clay Street<br>Fairfield, CA                               | 94533-5625 |
| Sonoma        | County Clerk-Elections<br>435 Fiscal Dr.<br>Santa Rosa, CA                            | 95403      |
| Stanislaus    | County Clerk-Elections<br>1021 "I" Street, Suite 101<br>Modesto, CA                   | 95354-2331 |
| Sutter        | County Clerk-Elections<br>433 Second Street<br>Yuba City, CA                          | 95991      |
| Tehama        | County Clerk-Elections<br>444 Oak St., Rm C<br>Red Bluff, CA                          | 96080-0250 |
| Trinity       | County Clerk-Elections<br>P.O. Box 1215<br>Weaverville, CA                            | 96093      |
| Tulare        | County Registrar of Voters<br>221 S Mooney Blvd., Room G-28<br>Visalia, CA            | 93291-4596 |
| Tuolumne      | County Clerk<br>2 S. Green St.<br>Sonora, CA  | 95370-4696 |
| Ventura       | County Clerk-Elections<br>800 S. Victoria Ave., L-1200<br>Ventura, CA                 | 93009-1200 |
| Yolo          | County Clerk-Registration<br>625 Court St., Rm. B 05<br>Woodland, CA                  | 95776      |
| Yuba          | County Clerk, Courthouse<br>935 14th Street<br>Marysville, CA                         | 95901-5793 |

***Stand For Something! VOTE***

by Major Edward O'Neal, Jr., Edwards AFB, California





