

# SOUTH CAROLINA

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.)	
a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) _____ b. SEX _____ c. RACE <b>A</b>		<b>F</b>	
d. DATE OF BIRTH _____ e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____ f. OTHER IDENTIFICATION NO. (passport, ID card) <b>B</b>		<b>7. REMARKS</b> (Provide additional information which will assist local election officials in determining your eligibility to register and vote. See instructions.)	
<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 <b>C</b>		c. STATE _____ d. VOTER REGISTRATION NO. (if known) _____	
<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>D</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>E</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>G</b>	
_____		X only one: a, b, c or d 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>H</b>	j. DATE _____
_____		_____	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** You are requested to fill out this box. This data is requested from some states by the Department of Justice in their enforcement of the Voting Rights Act and the National Voter Registration Act. Enter the choice that best describes you from the following list: W= White; B/AA= Black/African-American; A= Asian; H= Hispanic; N= Native American; O= Other.
- B** Your Social Security number is required. If you do not have a Social Security number, your South Carolina 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.
- C** Do not leave blank. Enter "N/A" if not applicable or if you are a first time voter.
- D** Provide the complete street address of your South Carolina voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Item 7. 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 or township where you claim legal voting residence.
- E** Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent - usually your current mailing address. It must be different from the address you provided in Item 3.
- F** **If you do not list a party affiliation, you cannot vote in primary elections.** You must indicate your political party affiliation when applying for a primary ballot (Example: Democrat, Republican) or write "none" in Item 6 of the FPCA. Political party choice is not required if only requesting absentee ballots for general elections.
- G** Check ONE box.
- H** 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 South Carolina 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).

To register and request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA to the Board of Voter Registration so that it arrives not later than 30 days before the election.

If you are already registered and only wish to request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA to the local county Board of Voter Registration so that it arrives not later than four days before the election. However, waiting too long may make it impossible for you to receive your blank ballot in time to return it by the deadline for receipt of voted ballots.

### C. Casting Your Vote

**Ballot Return Deadline:** Voted ballot must arrive by the close of polls on election day.

Local election officials mail out absentee ballots approximately 45 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 instruction in Chapter 2, page 12.

### D. Notary/Witness Requirements

**FPCA:** No notary or witness required.

**Ballot Return Envelope:** The oath on the ballot return envelope must be witnessed.

### E. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- South Carolina allows you to send the FPCA for absentee ballot requests and registration by fax. You must also submit the original FPCA by mail.

- South Carolina allows you to receive the blank ballot by fax in declared emergency situations.
- South Carolina allows you to return the voted ballot by fax in declared emergency situations.

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

South Carolina provides a state special write-in absentee ballot available 90 days before the election if you will be unable to vote by regular absentee ballot or in person due to requirements of military service or due to living in an isolated or extremely remote area of the world.

You may use the FPCA to request this state special write-in ballot. In Item 7 of the FPCA, place one of the state special write-in labels from Section III.G below. If no labels are available, write in Item 7: “I am unable to vote by regular absentee ballot or in person due to requirements of military service or due to living in isolated or extremely remote areas of the world. I request a special write-in absentee ballot.”

You must request the state special write-in ballot not earlier than 90 days before an election and you may use it to vote for Federal offices, statewide offices, and members of the South Carolina General Assembly by writing in a political party choice or the names of specific candidates.

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 South Carolina and overseas citizens. The term “overseas citizen” means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in South Carolina.

- members of the American Red Cross or service agencies serving with the Armed Forces (for local, state and Federal office ballots)

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

- employees of the U.S. Government serving overseas (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- spouses and dependents who reside with the above persons (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- South Carolina residents temporarily residing outside the U.S. (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- overseas citizens (for Federal office ballots only)

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**Ballot Return Deadline:** Voted ballot must arrive by the close of polls on election day.

Local election officials mail out absentee ballots approximately 45 days before the election.

If you have not received your state ballot in a timely manner, use the **Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot**. See instructions in Chapter 2, page 12.

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You must request the state special write-in ballot not earlier than 90 days before an election and you may use it to vote for Federal offices, statewide offices, and members of the South Carolina General Assembly by writing in a political party choice or the names of specific candidates.

Instructions continue in Section III: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

## III. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

### A. Late Registration

Any person eligible to register who has been discharged or separated from service in the Armed Forces of the U.S., and returned home too late to register at the time when registration is required, is entitled to register for the purpose of voting in the next ensuing election after discharge or separation from service, up to 5:00 p.m. on the day of the election. This application for registration must be made at the office of the Board of Voter Registration in the county in which the person wishes to register, and if qualified, the person must be issued a registration notification stating the precinct in which the person is entitled to vote and a certification to the managers of the precinct that the person is entitled to vote and should be placed on the registration rolls of the precinct.

### B. Bars to Registration and Voting

A person is disqualified from being registered or voting if she/he: is mentally incompetent as adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction; is serving a term of imprisonment resulting from a conviction of a crime; or is convicted of a felony or offenses against the election laws, unless the disqualification has been removed by service of the sentence, including probation and parole time unless sooner pardoned.

### C. Cancellation of Registration

Permanent registration may be canceled if voting residence is changed to another South Carolina county or state or committing a crime as noted in Section B above.

### D. Action on Registration Requests

Notice of acceptance or denial is sent.

### E. Action Upon Denial of Registration or Absentee Ballot Request

Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, South Carolina shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection.

### F. Action If Registration Is Denied

Persons denied registration should correct the defects noted in the denial notice. If a second denial is received, consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

### G. Where To Send It

Mail the FPCA to the [Board of Voter Registration](#), county of voting residence, as listed below:

County	County Seat	Zip Code
Abbeville	PO Box 417, Abbeville	29620-0417
Aiken	PO Box 3127, Aiken	29802-3127
Allendale	PO Box 552, Allendale	29810-0552
Anderson	107 S. Main Street, Rm. 101, Anderson	29624-1618
Bamberg	110 N. Main St., Courthouse, Bamberg	29003-1148
Barnwell	Cnty. Courthouse, Rm. 109, Barnwell	29812

County	County Seat	Zip Code
Beaufort	PO Box 1228, Beaufort	29901-1228
Berkeley	223 N. Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner	29461-3707
Calhoun	102 Courthouse Dr., Room 103, St. Matthews	29135
Charleston	PO Box 71419, Charleston	29415-1419
Cherokee	1434 N. Limestone Street, Gaffney	29340-4734
Chester	PO Drawer 580, Chester	29706-0580
Chesterfield	200 W. Main St., Courthouse, Chesterfield	29709-1527
Clarendon	E. Keitt St., Rm. 101/Courthouse, PO Box 548, Manning	29102-0458
Colleton	PO Box 97, Walterboro	29488-0001
Darlington	300 Russell St., Room 107, Darlington	29532-3329
Dillon	PO Box 973, Dillon	29536-0973
Dorchester	201 Johnston Street, Saint George	29477-2443
Edgefield	PO Box 442, Edgefield	29824-0442
Fairfield	PO Drawer 60, Winnsboro	29180-0060
Florence	City-County Complex, Room 406, 180 N. Irby St., MSC-U, Florence	29501
Georgetown	PO Box 421270, Georgetown	29440-4200
Greenville	301 University Ridge, Ste. 1900, Greenville	29601-3668
Greenwood	600 Monument Street, Ste. 113, Greenwood	29646-2643
Hampton	201 Lee Avenue, Room 101, Hampton	29944
Horry	801 Main Street, Conway	29526
Jasper	Post Office Box 299, Ridgeland	29936-0299
Kershaw	County Courthouse, Rm. 213, Camden	29020
Lancaster	Post Office Box 1809, Lancaster	29721-1809
Laurens	3 Catherine St., PO Box 769, Laurens	29360-0769
Lee	PO Box 309, Bishopville	29010
Lexington	605 W. Main St., Suite 105, Lexington	29072
McCormick	Post Office Box 636, McCormick	29835-0636
Marion	137 Airport Ct., Suite E, Mullins	29574-6034
Marlboro	Admin. Bldg., PO Box 502, Bennettsville	29512-0502
Newberry	Couthouse, 1226 College St., Newberry	29108
Oconee	415 S. Pine St., Walhalla	29691-2145
Orangeburg	Post Office Box 9000, Orangeburg	29116-9000
Pickens	222 McDaniel Avenue, B-9, Pickens	29671-2556
Richland	2020 Hampton Street, Columbia	29202-1002
Saluda	County Courthouse, Saluda	29138
Spartanburg	Post Office Box 1287, Spartanburg	29304-1287
Sumter	141 N. Main St., Rm. 114, Sumter	29150-4987
Union	210 W. Main St., PO Box 200, Union	29379-0200
Williamsburg	5 Courthouse Square, Kingstree	29556-3932
York	13 S. Congress Street, E.C. Black Bldg, York	29745-1856

***Yes, It Does Count! VOTE!***

by MAJ Bary W. Presley, USA, Harvest, Alabama



