

MILITARY/OVERSEAS VOTERS

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is a form provided by federal law to permit members of the U.S. armed forces and merchant marines and their dependents and U.S. citizens abroad to vote early by mail and, if eligible, to register to vote.

You are eligible to vote early with an FPCA if you are qualified to vote in Texas and you are:

- A member of the U.S. armed forces, their spouse, or a dependent
- A member of the U.S. merchant marines, their spouse, or a dependent
- A U.S. citizen domiciled in Texas but temporarily living outside the territorial limits of the United States

New rules streamline military/overseas voting

For Immediate Release, from the Texas Secretary of State Office

August 2, 2010

AUSTIN – Military and overseas voters are now able to request blank balloting materials for the November 2 election to be sent to them by email, following new rules put in place by the Texas Secretary of State.

“A large number of our United States Military Forces call Texas home,” said Secretary Andrade. “It is of utmost importance to me and my office that these brave men and women have the opportunity to participate in our nation’s democratic process. I am pleased that these new rules modernize the process to ensure the secure and expedited transmission of ballots and I encourage our military and overseas voters to take advantage of these new simple voting procedures.”

In accordance with the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act, the State of Texas has adopted new administrative rules that make it easier for military and overseas voters to access the absentee voting process. Included are provisions which allow military service members temporarily residing outside their county of residence, as well as United States citizens residing overseas, to request blank balloting materials to be sent to them by email as well as the establishment of a ballot tracking system allowing military and overseas voters to determine the status of their ballot.

When a voter submits their Federal Post Card Applicant (FPCA), they may specify that a blank ballot be sent to them via email. Voted ballots must still be returned through regular mail, unless they are sent from a designated war zone and are eligible to be returned by fax. For

more information, voters may visit the [Federal Voting Assistance Program \(FVAP\)](#) website or call FVAP at 1-800-438-VOTE (8683).

For further information, please visit the following:

[Texas Secretary of State's website](#)

[Federal Voting Assistance Program website](#)

[Texas Overseas Vote Foundation](#)

[Votetexas.gov](#)