

Voting Tips

Register Now!

Primary elections for federal posts are federal elections just as are the election of the President and Vice-President, members of House of Representatives and Senators. You can vote in the primaries by registering and indicating your political party of preference. Primary elections are being advanced to earlier dates. It is essential to register NOW to be able to participate in the primaries.

Always register before up-coming elections. This registration process doubles as a ballot request. Even if you have voted from abroad before, many states require the renewed registration form in order to send you your ballot. In principle, the registration now for primaries should remain valid for the November 2008 elections. However, regardless of when you send in your registration form, to be on the safe side, verify with your election official that you are on the voting rolls through 2008. Either call them or email them.

The place where you vote is the last address where you lived in the United States.

For easy on-line registration, go to www.overseasvotefoundation.org.

- **The site eliminates confusion** about how to register. All the needed information is provided, including the address of your election office in the U.S.
- **Pull down menus and a step-by-step guidance** make the process easy.
- **You first select your state of voting residence** and then proceed to complete on-line the registration form with information required by your state.
- **You can choose to have your absentee ballot mailed** to your current residence overseas or to have it sent to a forwarding address.
- **You indicate your preference for reception of your absentee ballot**, as permitted by your state – by mail, fax or email.
- **The completed registration form is downloaded in a PDF file.** You print it and sign the form as well as its addendum page. You then mail it to the appropriate election office address, which OVF provides to you in a letter of instruction.
- **This procedure takes only ten minutes and greatly accelerates transmission of your registration document** to your election office.
- **All specific state registration requirements are met.**
- **A help desk is available on the OVF site** to answer your questions about the voting procedure.
- **The site is non-partisan.** You can register for any party holding primary elections or choose not to select a party.
- **The site is fully secure.** Sensitive personal data, such as birthdates and social security numbers, are erased from the host computer system as soon as the voter downloads the registration form.
- **The service is free.**

All Americans residing overseas should take advantage of this wonderful tool to help make their voice heard. In recent elections, the overseas vote has been a crucial swing vote, so every vote counts. The technology is now in place to facilitate our voting. It is up to all of us to exercise our civil rights. Please inform your friends abroad about www.overseasvotefoundation.org and ask them to do likewise.