

What FVAP Can Do for New York UOCAVA Voters

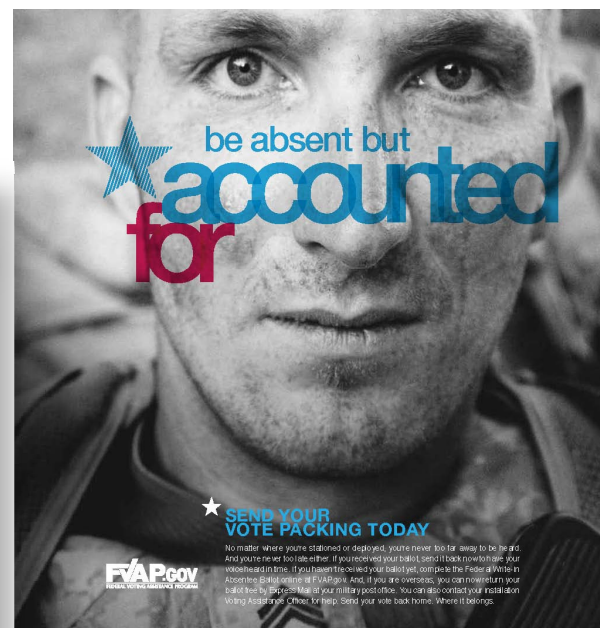
Brian Griffiths
Federal Voting Assistance Program
August 1, 2012

What Is FVAP?

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) provides assistance to both *UOCAVA* citizens and election officials and is your primary resource for information on *UOCAVA*.

FVAP's purpose is to:

1. *Assist uniformed services and overseas voters to exercise their right to vote and have an equal opportunity with the general population to have their vote counted.*
2. *Assist the States in complying with relevant federal laws, and advise them on ways to best comply.*
3. *Advocate on behalf of the Uniformed Services and overseas voters, identifying impediments to their ability to exercise their right to vote, and proposing methods to overcome those impediments.*



What Is *UOCAVA*?

UOCAVA, or the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* of 1986, as amended by the *MOVE Act*, requires U.S. States and territories to allow certain U.S. citizens to apply to register and vote absentee in elections for federal office.

Citizens covered under *UOCAVA* include:

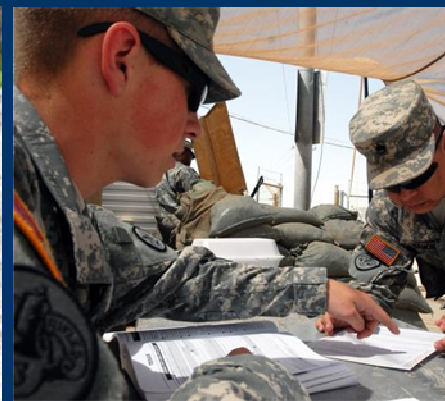
1. Members of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine who are absent from their voting jurisdiction due to their service.
2. Dependents of members of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine who are absent from their voting jurisdiction with the member.
3. U.S. citizens residing outside the United States and its territories.



UOCAVA at a Glance

The *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)* of 1986 covers **approximately 6 million** potential voters.

- ✓ **More than 3 million** U.S. citizens living, studying, and working overseas
- ✓ **1.4 million** absent members of the Uniformed Services and Merchant Marine
- ✓ **1.3 million** dependents of members of the Uniformed Services and Merchant Marine



Challenges to *UOCAVA* Voting Success



1. Mobile Population: *UOCAVA* citizens tend to move frequently.

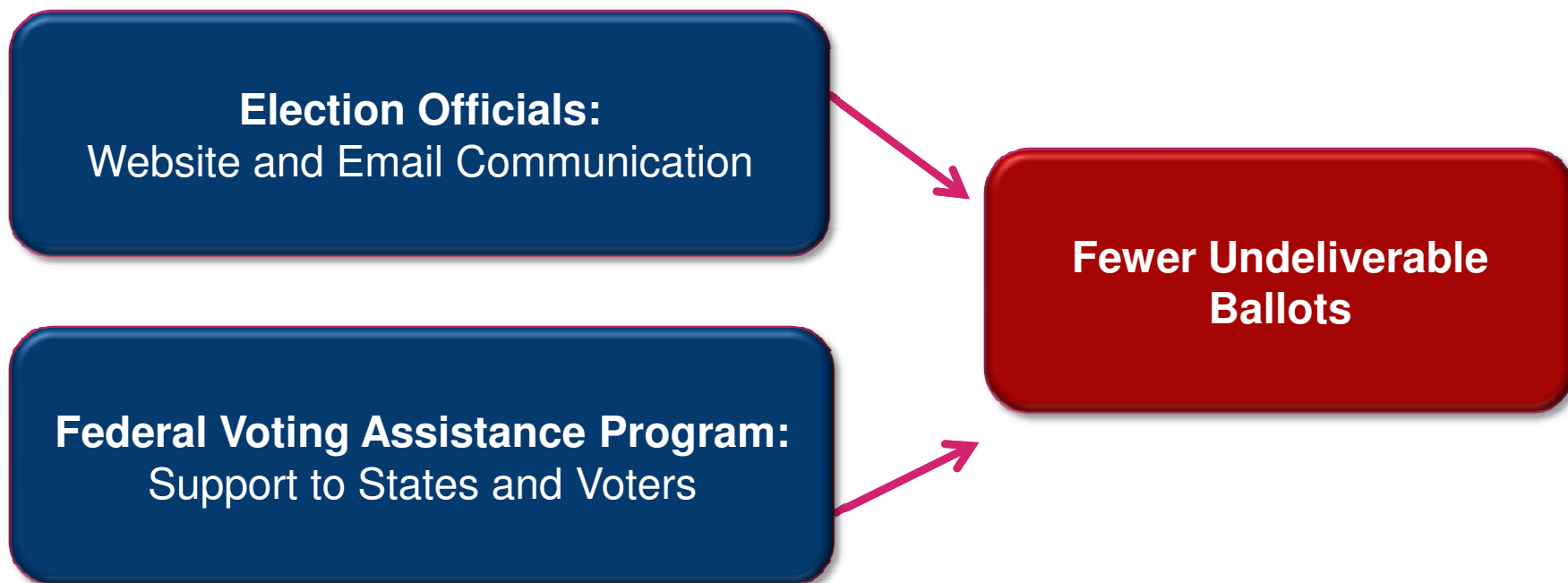


2. Complex Process: Variability in State voting procedures adds complexity.



3. Time Required: Delays in overseas mail reduce the time available to vote.

Tackling Challenge 1: Mobile Population



Tackling Challenge 1: Current Address



**Military Address
Lookup**
(Military members only)



**Readdress
Undeliverable
Ballots**
*(Overseas military
members only)*

Tackling Challenge 1: Spotlight on New York

New York State State Agencies

Board of Elections

HOME | ABOUT US | FAQ | CONTACT US | SITE INDEX

Powered by Google

- Public Information
- Voting Information
- Election Results
- Campaign Finance
- Help America Vote Act
- Running for Office
- Political Calendar
- National Voter Registration Act
- Enrollment Statistics
- Election Law
- County Boards
- Elected Officials
- Useful Links

Next Election

September 13, 2012 -- State and Local Primary
November 6, 2012 -- General Election

Moved

We have moved our offices. Our new location is:
40 North Pearl Street, Suite 5
Albany, NY 12207-2729

All phone numbers and email addresses remain the same.

Voter Information

Need a Voter Registration Form?

Need an Absentee Ballot?

Want to Know who is on the Ballot?

Want to learn about the new Voting Machines?

VOTE NY
Voter Education Website

MILITARY & OVERSEAS VOTERS, CLICK HERE!

New York

- ✓ Electronic voter registration and verification.
- ✓ Electronic ballot delivery.

Minutes and Archived Webcasts

2012 Elections

NEW! Filings for the September 13, 2012 State Primary

2012 Signature Requirements for Senate (306KB)

2012 Signature Requirements for Assembly (611KB)

2012 Signature Requirements for Congress (173KB)

2012 State and Local Political Calendar (130KB)

District Maps

Republican Presidential Primary Results by County (60KB)

Republican Presidential Primary Results by Congressional District (302KB)

2012 Federal Primary Certification - Amended (161KB)

Challenge 2: Complex Process

Challenge 2: Variability in State voting procedures and requirements creates additional complexity for *UOCAVA* voters.



Tackling Challenge 2: Complex Process

Election Officials:

Direct contact with voter, *UOCAVA* website, information, and training resources

Federal Voting Assistance Program:

Streamlines FPCA /FWAB forms, various resources provided, election official training

Simplify Voting Experience

Tackling Challenge 2: Form Redesign

- ✓ Voters and election officials noted that FPCA and FWAB were difficult to use.
- ✓ FVAP used their suggestions and conducted usability sessions to revise the forms.

Revised FPCA and FWAB

Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)
Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request

A quicker, easier to complete, electronic version of this form is also available on FVAP.gov. For any questions about this form, contact your Voting Assistance Officer or the Voting Assistance Guide available in hard copy or on FVAP.gov. Please print in black ink.

Classification
Make only 1 selection:
1 ☐ I am a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty OR ☐ I am their spouse or dependent.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and I intend to return.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and I do not intend to return.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen otherwise granted military/overseas voting rights under State law (check the Voting Assistance Guide).

Political Party
2 To vote in primary elections, your State may require you to specify a political party:
Last name _____ Suffix _____
Your legal name 3 First name _____ Middle name _____
Previous name (if applicable) _____

Identification
Some States require your full SSN. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on FVAP.gov.
4 Sex ☐ M ☐ F Race See instructions on back Birth date M / M / D / Y, Y, Y, Y
OR State Drivers License or ID _____
OR Social Security Number _____

Contact information
Include international prefixes. No COX number.
5 Telephone _____
Fax _____
Email _____
Alternate Email _____

Ballot receipt
6 I prefer to receive my ballot, as permitted by my State, by: ☐ Email/Online ☐ Mail ☐ Fax
(rank from 1-3 in order of preference, be sure appropriate contact information is provided above)

U.S. address for voting purposes
Usually your last U.S. residence or your legal U.S. residence. See instructions.
7 Street Address (no P.O. Box) _____ Apt. # _____
City/Town/Village _____
County _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Address where you live now
8 This is different from above. Your voting materials will be sent here, unless you specify a forwarding address in Box 9.

Additional requirements for your State
9 Such as: mail forwarding address, additional phone, or other State required information. See your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on FVAP.gov.

Affirmation (REQUIRED): I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:
I am a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., or I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age or will be by the day of the election, eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S. My signature and date herein indicate when I completed this document.
The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.
Signature _____ Print this form, sign, and send in.
Today's date M / M / D / Y, Y, Y, Y
Witness signature (date if required by your state) _____
Signature _____
Date _____

This information is for official use only. Any unauthorized release may be punishable by law. (Standard Form 75 (Rev. 04-2014))

Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB)
Voter's Declaration/Affirmation

A quicker, easier to complete, electronic version of this form is also available on FVAP.gov. For any questions about this form, contact your Voting Assistance Officer or the Voting Assistance Guide available in hard copy or on FVAP.gov. Please print in black ink.

Qualifications & Voter Registration
Have you already registered and requested an absentee ballot? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If you answer no, you can do this via the Federal Post Card Application on FVAP.gov, or in a few States, by marking the box below. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on FVAP.gov to see if your State allows registration via this form.
1 ☐ I am a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active-duty OR ☐ I am their spouse or dependent.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and I intend to return.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and I do not intend to return.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen otherwise granted military/overseas voting rights under State law (check the Voting Assistance Guide).

Classification
2 ☐ I am a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active-duty OR ☐ I am their spouse or dependent.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and I intend to return.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and I do not intend to return.
☐ I am a U.S. citizen otherwise granted military/overseas voting rights under State law (check the Voting Assistance Guide).

Your legal name
3 Last name _____ Suffix _____
First name _____ Middle name _____
Previous name (if applicable) _____

Identification
Some States require your full SSN. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on FVAP.gov.
4 Sex ☐ M ☐ F Race See instructions Birth date M / M / D / Y, Y, Y, Y
OR State Drivers License or ID _____
OR Social Security Number _____

Contact information
Include international prefixes. No COX number.
5 Telephone _____
Fax _____
Email _____
Alternate Email _____

Political party
6 To vote in primary elections, your State may require you to specify a political party.

U.S. address for voting purposes
Usually your last U.S. residence or your legal U.S. residence. See instructions.
7 Street Address (no P.O. Box) _____ Apt. # _____
City/Town/Village _____
County _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Address where you live now
8 This is different from above. Your voting materials will be sent here, unless you specify a forwarding address in Box 9.

Additional requirements from your State
9 Such as: mail forwarding address, additional phone, or other State required information. See your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on FVAP.gov.

Affirmation (REQUIRED): I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:
I am a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., or I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age or will be by the day of the election, eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S. My signature and date herein indicate when I completed this document.
The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.
Signature _____ Print this form, sign, and send in.
Today's date M / M / D / Y, Y, Y, Y
Witness signature (date if required by your state) _____
Signature _____
Date _____

This information is for official use only. Any unauthorized release may be punishable by law. (Standard Form 100 (Rev. 04-2014))

Tackling Challenge 2: Online Assistants

Benefits of the Online Assistants:

1. Generate only State-required fields.
2. Provide up-to-date information such as important State voting deadlines.
3. Provide an output package that allows voters to print, sign, and send their completed form or ballot.
4. Streamline voting process so no stage takes more than 15 minutes to complete.

FVAP.gov FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Voting Help For Uniformed Service Members, Their Families, & Citizens Living Outside The U.S. [Help](#)

[START OVER](#) [FVAP HOME](#) [CONTACT FVAP](#)

Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) for Absentee Ballot

New York > Cortland County Board of Elections > Uniformed Services Member

Voting Residence ([Help](#))

Street Address (required)

Apartment Number (optional)

City, Town, or Village (required)

County (required)

[Look up your county](#)

State (required) New York

Zip Code (required)

Don't know your zip code? [Look up your ZIP+4 zip code](#) from the United States Postal Service. Note: ZIP+4 format is requested for FPCA and is mandatory for FWAB.

If you have a Rural Route (R.R.) mailing address as your legal voting residence, you must provide detailed directions to its physical location.

[< Back](#) [Continue >](#)

Challenge 3: Time Required

Challenge 3: Delays in postal mail make it challenging for overseas voters to receive, vote, and return their ballots in time to be counted.



Tackling Challenge 3: Time Required

Election Officials:

45-day ballot transmission, electronic options for registration and ballot request, expanded use of FWAB

Federal Voting Assistance Program:

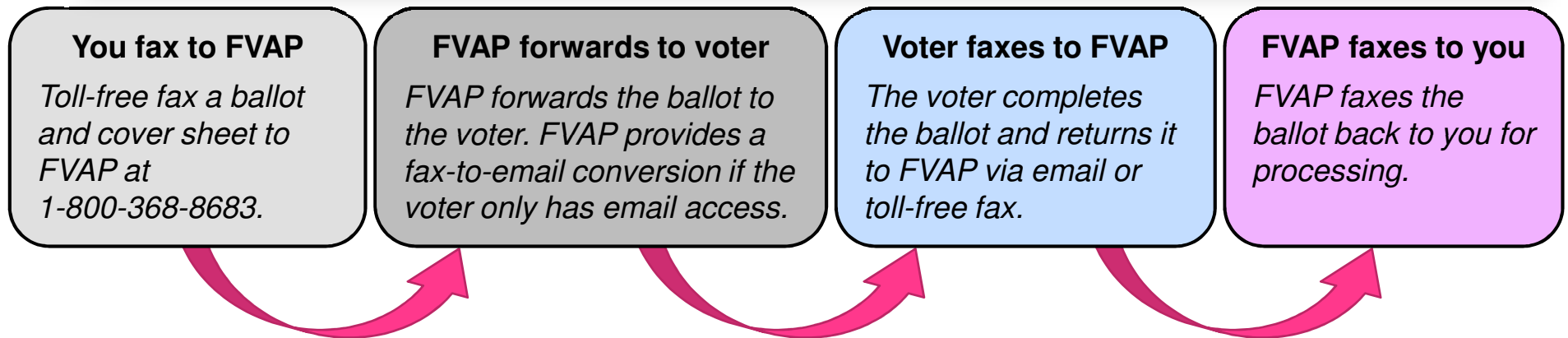
State support in adopting Initiatives, toll-free 1800# Fax/Email conversion, available call center, and partnerships with MPSA and USPS

**Voting Success Rate
Same as General
Population**

Additional FVAP Resources: Electronic Transmission Service

To help election officials and voters avoid the costs associated with long-distance faxes, FVAP provides an Electronic Transmission Service (ETS) that allows *UOCAVA* balloting materials to be faxed **at no cost**.*

Here's how it works:





ETS Resources:

- ✓ ETS Instructions: <http://www.fvap.gov/resources/media/etsmanualforleos.pdf>
- ✓ ETS Coversheet: <http://www.fvap.gov/resources/media/leofaxcoversheet.pdf>

*Note: Not all States allow completed ballots to be delivered or returned via fax. Check your State's guidelines.

Additional FVAP Resources: Postage-Paid Indicia

- ✓ FVAP provides postage-paid indicia that allow *UOCAVA* balloting materials to be sent at no cost to you when using the U.S. and military postal services or Diplomatic Pouch mail.

NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS Orange Registrar of Voters 1300 S. Grande Ave Bldg. C Santa Ana, CA, 92705-4434	 OFFICIAL ELECTION MAIL <small>Authorized by the U.S. Postal Service</small>		US POSTAGE PAID 39 USC 3406 PAR AVION
OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST-CLASS MAIL			
<small>NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAIL - DMM 703.8.0</small>			
TO: James Larry Jones			
USS FVAP			
FPO AE 54321			

Check with your local Post Office for international mail postage requirements.

Additional FVAP Resources: Help Desk

FVAP's telephone and email Help Desk assists with:

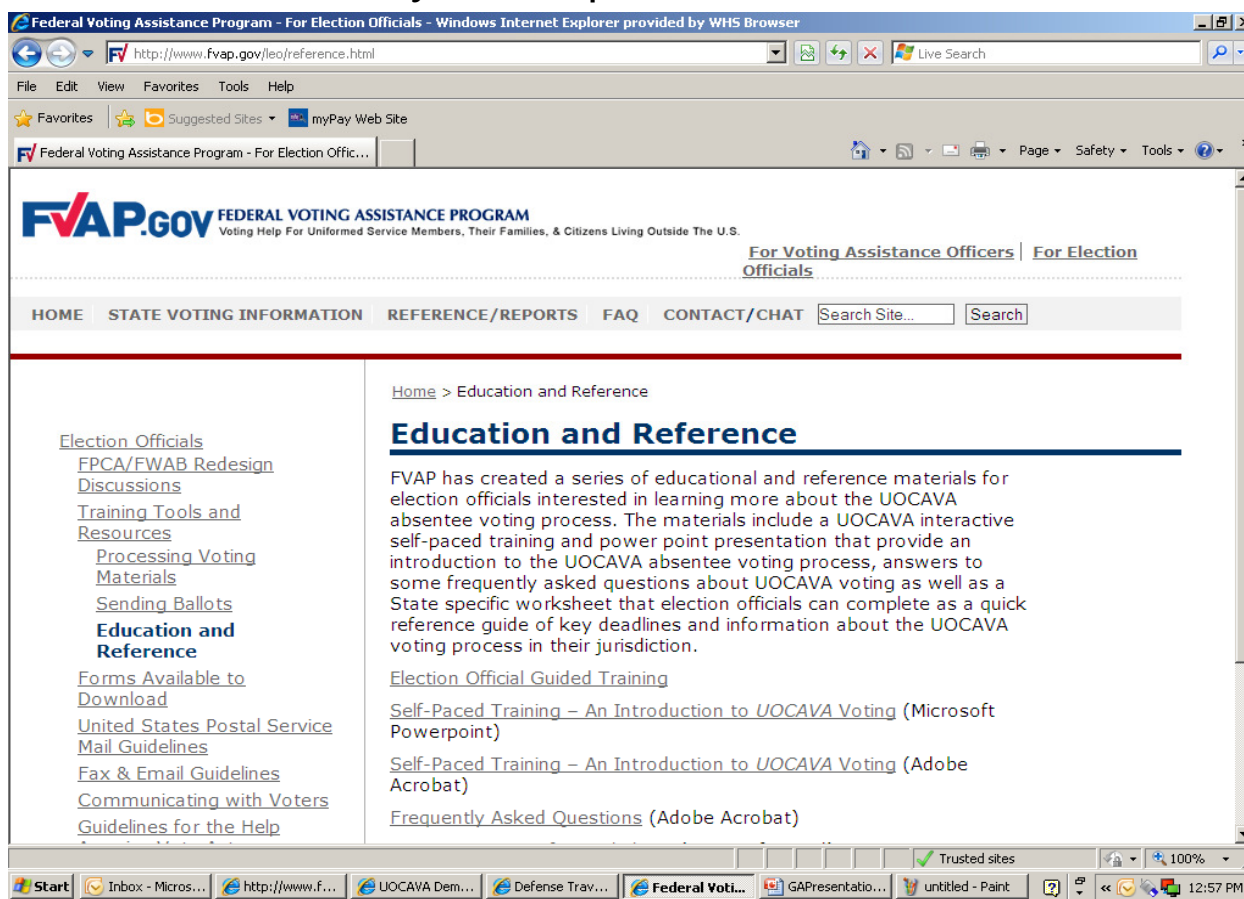
- ✓ Obtaining current contact information for military voters in your jurisdiction.
- ✓ Understanding uses of the FPCA and FWAB in your State.
- ✓ Providing information on *UOCAVA* and other voting legislation.



The FVAP Help Desk is also available to assist *UOCAVA* voters and will transfer voters' calls to your office when applicable.

1-800-438-VOTE (8683)
vote@fvap.gov

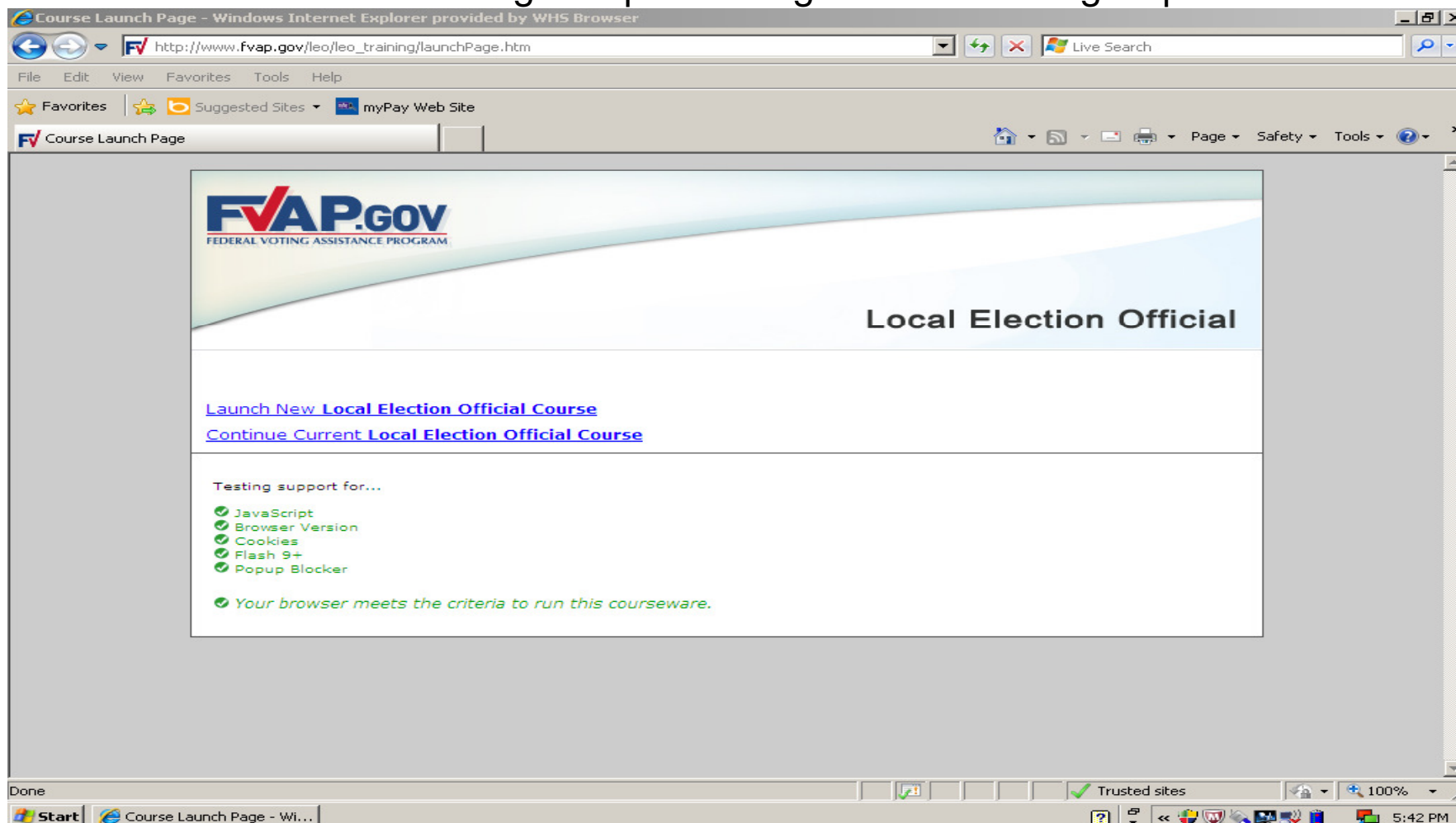
Resources include a recently developed 'Election Official Guided Training'



The following slides provide you with in-depth information on the resources available and how they can help.

New FVAP Resources

An audio-guided training, this latest courseware provides the most up-to-date information on understanding and processing UOCAVA voting requirements.



Course Topics have been developed and researched by local election officials.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "http://www.fvap.gov/?refresh=18: - Local Election Official Course - Windows Internet Explorer provided by WHS Browser". The page features the FVAP.gov logo and the text "FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM". The main content area is titled "Introduction Course Topics and Objectives". On the left, under the heading "Course Topics", there is a list of five topics: "Introduction", "Absentee Voting and FVAP", "UOCAVA and Election Official Roles", "Communicating with UOCAVA Voters", and "Summary and Conclusion". On the right, under the heading "Objectives", there is a list of six objectives: "Describe the purpose of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)", "Identify the role of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in providing voting assistance", "Identify the challenges faced by citizens covered under UOCAVA", "Describe the UOCAVA absentee voting process", "Identify the role of election officials in the UOCAVA absentee voting process", and "Identify ways to communicate with military and overseas voters". At the bottom of the page, there is a navigation bar with links for "MENU", "GLOSSARY", and "RESOURCES", a progress bar, and a set of navigation controls including "CC", "D)", a list icon, a refresh icon, a pause icon, a play icon, and a "2 of 25" indicator. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, the address bar with "http://www.fvap.gov...", and the system clock showing "6:05 PM".

http://www.fvap.gov/?refresh=18: - Local Election Official Course - Windows Internet Explorer provided by WHS Browser

FVAP.gov
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Introduction
Course Topics and Objectives

Course Topics

- Introduction
- Absentee Voting and FVAP
- UOCAVA and Election Official Roles
- Communicating with UOCAVA Voters
- Summary and Conclusion

Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

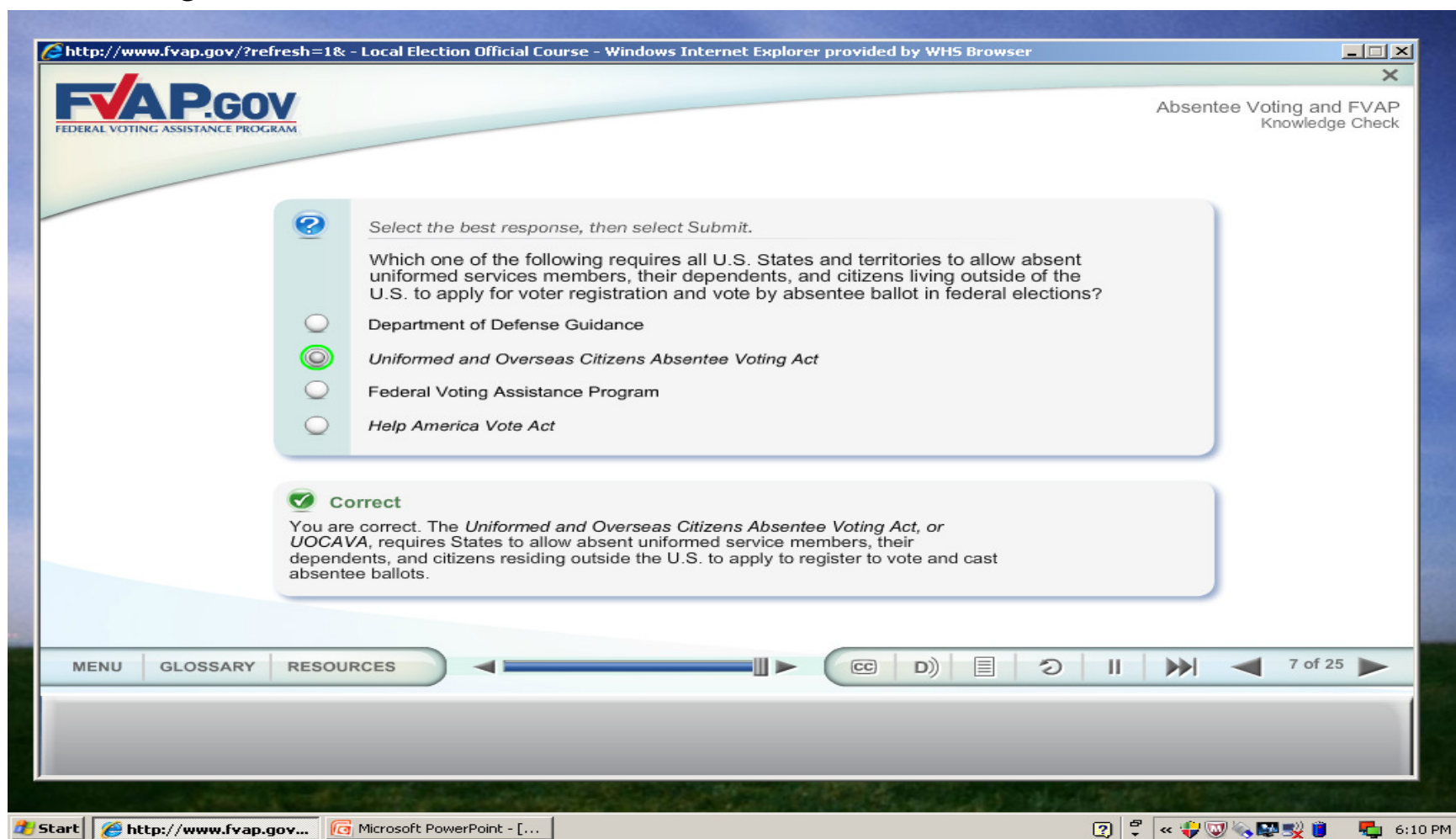
- Describe the purpose of the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*
- Identify the role of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in providing voting assistance
- Identify the challenges faced by citizens covered under *UOCAVA*
- Describe the *UOCAVA* absentee voting process
- Identify the role of election officials in the *UOCAVA* absentee voting process
- Identify ways to communicate with military and overseas voters

MENU GLOSSARY RESOURCES

2 of 25

Start http://www.fvap.gov... 6:05 PM

Knowledge Checks within the courseware.



The screenshot displays a web browser window with the address bar showing <http://www.fvap.gov/?refresh=1&>. The page title is "Local Election Official Course - Windows Internet Explorer provided by WHS Browser". The FVAP.gov logo is in the top left, and the page is titled "Absentee Voting and FVAP Knowledge Check" in the top right.

The main content area contains a question box with a question mark icon and the text: "Select the best response, then select Submit. Which one of the following requires all U.S. States and territories to allow absent uniformed services members, their dependents, and citizens living outside of the U.S. to apply for voter registration and vote by absentee ballot in federal elections?"

Below the question are four radio button options:

- ☐ Department of Defense Guidance
- ☒ Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act
- ☐ Federal Voting Assistance Program
- ☐ Help America Vote Act

Below the options is a green checkmark icon and the word "Correct". The feedback text reads: "You are correct. The *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act*, or *UOCAVA*, requires States to allow absent uniformed service members, their dependents, and citizens residing outside the U.S. to apply to register to vote and cast absentee ballots."

At the bottom of the page is a navigation bar with links for "MENU", "GLOSSARY", and "RESOURCES". To the right of these links is a progress bar and a set of navigation controls (back, forward, search, etc.). The progress bar indicates "7 of 25".

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, the address bar with <http://www.fvap.gov...>, and the taskbar with icons for "Microsoft PowerPoint - [...]" and the system clock showing "6:10 PM".

All of your printable resources are found within the guided training!

http://www.fvap.gov/?refresh=1& - Local Election Official Course - Windows Internet Explorer provided by WHS Browser

FVAP.gov
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

UOCAVA and Local Election Official Roles Redesigned Forms

[FPCA Quick Reference Guide](#) [FWAB Quick Reference Guide](#)

- New versions of the FPCA and FWAB were released in 2011
- Older versions are still in circulation, and should be accepted
 - Process according to your State's current requirements

MENU GLOSSARY RESOURCES

21 of 25

Start http://www.fvap.gov/?r... 6:14 PM

All of your printable resources are found within the guided training!

The screenshot displays the FVAP.gov website within a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.fvap.gov/?refresh=1&>. The page title is "Local Election Official Course - Windows Internet Explorer provided by WHS Browser".

The main content area features the FVAP.gov logo and the text "Summary and Conclusion Conclusion". A large orange box contains the following text:

To print a certificate of completion, enter your name in the space provided and select Print Certificate.

Below this text is a text input field containing the name "Sonia Campos" and a "Print Certificate" button. Below the button is a horizontal line and the text "Select X to exit the course."

To the right of the orange box is a section titled "Objectives" with the text "You should now be able to:" followed by a list of objectives:

- Describe the purpose of the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act*
- Identify the role of FVAP in providing voting assistance
- Identify the challenges faced by citizens covered under UOCAVA
- Describe the UOCAVA absentee voting process
- Identify the role of Election Officials in the UOCAVA absentee voting process
- Identify additional ways to communicate with UOCAVA voters

Below the objectives section is a link: "If you would like to receive the latest news and voting information from FVAP, click on this link: <http://www.fvap.gov/contact/subscription.html>".

The bottom of the page features a navigation bar with links for "MENU", "GLOSSARY", and "RESOURCES". A progress bar indicates the current position is "25 of 25".

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, the address bar with <http://www.fvap.gov...>, and the system clock showing 6:20 PM.

Social Media

facebook Katherine Nigro Home

Admin Panel

Now
April
2012
2011
2010
Joined Facebook

FVAP.gov
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Send your vote packing
Visit fvap.gov to request

Federal Voting Assistance Program
13,358 likes · 65 talking about this

Community
FVAP, DoD - Supporting military and overseas citizens absentee voting. We're here for you! Honor the past, support the future - VOTE! If you're looking for the official About

Photos Likes

Highlights

Status Photo / Video Event, Milestone +

Write something...

FVAP Federal Voting Assistance Program, DoD shared a link. Thursday

Read about our recent VAO Training held at Camp Pendleton!

1 Visit fvap.gov

2 Complete ballot request

3 Print

4 Send to your local election office

5 Friends Like Federal

Make Your Vote Count ✓

@FVAP

The Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program - Supporting and facilitating military and overseas absentee voting.
Arlington, VA · <http://www.fvap.gov>

611 TWEETS
389 FOLLOWING
38,016 FOLLOWERS

Edit your profile

Tweets

Following

Followers

Favorites

Lists

Recent images

Similar to you

Deborah Mullen @deborahmullen
Follow

electionline @electionline
Following

Craig McKinley @ChiefNGB
Following

Tweets

Make Your Vote Count @FVAP
True/False: Absentee voters should wait to register absentee until after the primaries. False. Register asap at [#vote](http://fvap.gov)
Expand

USAinUK CG's Corner @USAinUKCGCorner
Make sure your voice is heard. Don't forget to register to vote. @FVAP shares Voting Alerts via Facebook and Twitter.
Retweeted by Make Your Vote Count
Expand

Make Your Vote Count @FVAP
Are you an aspiring film maker? If so check out FVAP's new video contest go.usa.gov/d3R
Expand

Make Your Vote Count @FVAP
College students going abroad in the Fall, where do you plan to travel? Don't forget to register absentee today at fvap.gov.
Expand

Make Your Vote Count @FVAP
FVAP remembers all those who gave their lives in service to our nation. #memorialday
Expand

Contact Us

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brian.griffiths@fvap.gov

Questions