



U.S. Embassy, Manila, Philippines

Message for U.S. Citizens: Final Opportunities to Return Voted Ballots

October 6, 2016

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION THROUGH THE EMBASSY WARDEN SYSTEM AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO AMERICAN CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD.

Don't wait, return your voted ballot right away! Remember U.S. embassies and consulates are not polling places; same-day in-person voting is not available outside the United States. The majority of states require voted ballots to reach local election officials by the close of polls on Tuesday, November 8. U.S. citizens who want to participate in the 2016 U.S. elections should already have returned their absentee ballots to their local election officials.

Never received your ballot? If you registered to vote and requested an absentee ballot prior to your state's registration deadline, but have not yet received your ballot, complete and return a [Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot](#) to ensure your vote reaches election officials by your state's deadline. If your regular ballot arrives later, complete and return it as well. Your [Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot](#) will only be counted if your regular ballot does not reach local election officials by your state's deadline. Your vote will not be counted twice.

RETURNING YOUR BALLOT:

The final date to return your paper ballot to your local election officials by election day for free via the U.S. Embassy Manila is October 15, 2016. If you wish to drop off your ballot, or have a friend or colleague drop it off for you, place it in either a postage-paid envelope or envelope bearing domestic U.S. postage addressed to your local election officials. You may drop off your ballot at the American Citizen entrance of the U.S. Embassy at 1201 Roxas Blvd., 1000 Manila. **Please note that the American Citizen Services (ACS) unit will hold voting assistance hours on Wednesday October 12, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the U.S.**

Embassy. ACS staff will be available to assist U.S. citizens with completion of their Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) or the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016 U.S. elections.

Missed the U.S. Embassy Manila shipment deadline? Consider returning your ballot to the United States via an express courier service such as FedEx, UPS, or DHL or electronically if allowed by your state. Ballots sent to local election officials via express courier service do not receive standard postmarks, so voters using this method should confirm delivery on or before November 8 prior to payment and shipment. Check your state's voting procedures at www.FVAP.gov for guidance.

Returning your [Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot](#) by email or fax. If you have previously registered to vote and requested an absentee ballot but it has not yet arrived, the following states allow voters to use email or fax to send signed, voted Federal Write-in Absentee Ballots to local election officials: Alaska (fax only), Arizona (contact election official first), Arkansas (fax only), Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida (fax only), Hawaii (fax only), Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana (fax only), Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska (fax only paper copy must also be mailed), Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma (fax only), Oregon (paper copy must also be mailed), Rhode Island (fax only), South Carolina, Utah, Washington, and West Virginia. Review your state's voting procedures at www.FVAP.gov carefully for guidance.

Returning your ballot by international mail delivery. If using the Philippine postal system, be sure to affix sufficient international postage, and allow sufficient time for international mail delivery. Ballots sent via regular international mail from most countries at this late date are unlikely to reach local election officials by state ballot receipt deadlines.

HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OVERSEAS VOTING. Please help spread the word to your friends, family, and colleagues that now is the time to start thinking about overseas voting. Consider posting to your Twitter, Instagram, Facebook or other social media account that you are an active voter and will be dropping off or mailing your Federal Post Card Application or completed ballot. Use #ProudOverseasVoter to help get the word out about voting.

Need help? You can get in-person assistance from our Embassy Voting Assistance Officers at the following event: **Voting Assistance Hours at the U.S. Embassy Wednesday October 12, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** You can return your

voted ballot to your local election officials free of charge via the U.S. Embassy or mail it directly at your own expense.

Have Questions? Please contact American Citizen Services at (02) 301-2246 or 301-2567 or email us at VoteManila@state.gov. You can also contact the Federal Voting Assistance Program directly if you encounter issues with local election officials by emailing Vote@FVAP.gov or [toll free by phone from many countries around the world](#).

Confirm your registration and ballot delivery online. Learn more at the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) website at www.FVAP.gov.

Click on this link for US Embassy Manila's video discussing Frequently Asked Questions regarding Absentee Voting in US Elections: <http://snip.state.gov/elx>

For further information:

- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for the [Worldwide Caution](#), Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the [Philippines Country Specific Information](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Manila, Philippines, located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, at +(63) (2) 301-2000, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +(63) (2) 301-2000.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).