



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
WASHINGTON, DC



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DCBOE Reminds Military, Overseas Voters to Plan for the November 3, 2026 General Election

The deadline for voter registration by mail, online is October 13

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The District of Columbia Board of Elections (DCBOE) is reminding military and overseas civilian voters to prepare for participation in the November 3, 2026 General Election.

The following are important deadlines applicable to military and overseas voters:

- Voter registration applications and updates to existing registrations that are submitted by mail or online must be received by **Tuesday, October 13, 2026**. You can use the [Federal Postcard Application \(FPCA\)](#), DCBOE's [voter registration application](#), or the [Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot \(FWAB\)](#) to register to vote.
- Requests for an Absentee Ballot must be received by **Saturday, October 31, 2026**.
- Mailed Absentee Ballots must be postmarked by **Election Day, November 3, 2026** and **received by Friday, November 13, 2026**.
- E-mailed or faxed Absentee Ballots must be **received by Tuesday, November 3, 2026 at 8:00 pm ET**.

The November 3, 2026 General Election will include the following contests and initiative measure:

- Delegate to the United States House of Representatives
- Mayor of the District of Columbia
- Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia
- At-large Member of the Council of the District of Columbia
- Ward Member of the Council of the District of Columbia (Wards 1, 3, 5 & 6)
- Attorney General
- United States Senator
- United States Representative
- Members of the State Board of Education (Wards 1, 3, 5, & 6)
- Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner
- Initiative Measure No. 86, the "Prohibiting Force-Feeding of Birds Act of 2026"

A current candidate list and additional information about this election can be found on DCBOE's website at <https://www.dcboe.org/elections/2026-elections>.

In addition, DC voters will use ranked choice voting (RCV) in the November 3, 2026 General Election. RCV is a voting method that allows voters to rank candidates in order of their preference. In DC, RCV is used in eligible contests with three or more candidates, and voters may rank up to five candidates, including write-in candidates. RCV allows your vote to count towards another candidate if your first-choice candidate does not receive enough votes. Visit <http://www.dcboe.org/RCV> for interactive tools, practice ballots, and additional information about RCV.

Military and overseas voters who do not receive their ballots in time may use the FWAB to vote. To vote using the FWAB, please read the instructions carefully.

Fill out the "Voter Information" section of the form completely and remember to sign and date the form. In the "Official Backup Ballot" section, write the title of the office you wish to make a selection for (unless it is already provided) and then privately write in the name of your candidate of choice or that candidate's party affiliation. (If a contest allows you to vote for more than one candidate, write in no more names than the maximum number of candidates for whom you are allowed to vote.) You are not required to make a selection for each and every contest.

Military and overseas voters can visit [https://dcboe.org/voters/casting-your-vote/military-and-overseas-voters-\(uocava\)](https://dcboe.org/voters/casting-your-vote/military-and-overseas-voters-(uocava)) for additional information. If you have any questions after reading this information, please contact DCBOE by phone at (202) 727-2525 or by email at uocava@dcboe.org.

The District of Columbia Board of Elections is an independent agency of the District of Columbia Government responsible for the administration of elections, ballot access, and voter registration.
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