

U.S. Embassy Lusaka, Zambia
Message for U.S. Citizens
Final Opportunities to Return Voted Ballots
29 October 2014

Embassies and consulates are not polling places. The majority of states require voted ballots to reach local election officials by the close of polls on Tuesday, November 4. U.S. citizens who want to participate in the 2014 U.S. elections should already have returned their absentee ballots to their local election officials. U.S. embassies and consulates are not polling places; same-day in-person voting is not available outside the United States.

Never received your ballot? If you have registered to vote and requested your absentee ballot prior to your state's registration and absentee ballot request deadlines but have not yet received your ballot, should immediately 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, go ahead and 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.

Ballot not yet sent to local election officials? If you wish to participate in this election and have not yet sent your ballot to your local election official, you should consider returning your ballot to the United States via an express courier service such as FedEx, UPS, or DHL. Some states or counties may allow you to return your voted ballot electronically. 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 4 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: Arizona, California (fax only), Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii (fax only), Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska (paper copy must also be mailed), Nevada, New Jersey (paper copy must also be mailed), New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon (paper copy must also be mailed), South Carolina, Utah, Washington, and West Virginia. Check your state's voting procedures at www.FVAP.gov for guidance.

Returning your ballot by mail. Ballots sent via regular international mail at this late date are unlikely to reach local election officials by state ballot receipt deadlines. If you still wish to send your voted ballot via mail, place your voted ballot in a U.S. postage-paid envelope addressed to your local election officials. Drop it off at the Embassy, and we'll send it back home for you without the need to pay international postage. The expected transit time is seven (7) days. If you can't visit the Embassy in person, ask a friend or colleague drop it off for you. If it's easier for you to use Zambia's postal system, be sure to affix sufficient international postage, and allow sufficient time for international mail delivery.

To receive information by email about election dates and deadlines, subscribe to FVAP's Voting Alerts (vote@fvap.gov). FVAP also shares Voting Alerts via [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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 Officer:

Voting assistance is available from the Consular section at U.S. Embassy Lusaka, or you may drop off your completed Federal Post Card Applications or ballots for mailing, addressed to your local election officials, at the main embassy entrance (not the Consular entrance). In the main embassy entrance is a red, white, and blue, U.S. Voting Drop Box which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

If it's more convenient for you, you can have a friend or family member drop off your FPCA at U.S. Embassy Lusaka, on your behalf or you can send your [FPCA](#) or ballot directly to your local election officials via international mail or professional courier service at your own expense.

Have Questions? Please contact Embassy Lusaka's Voting Assistance Officer on 0211-357-260, or at voteLusaka@state.gov.

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

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Zambia enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) at www.Travel.State.Gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy. Regularly monitor the State [Department's website](#), where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for Zambia](#). For additional information, refer to the ["Traveler's Checklist"](#) on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. Embassy for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Lusaka is located on Ibex Hill and is open Monday through Thursday from 0730 to 1730 and on Fridays from 0730 to 1130. The Consular Section can be contacted at 0211-357-000 or via email at ACSLusaka@state.gov. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, **the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is +260 (0) 966-877-805**

END U.S. CITIZEN MESSAGE