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**New Mexico's Military and Overseas Voters to Begin Receiving General Election Absentee Ballots**

SANTA FE – Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver announces that New Mexico county clerks have begun sending ballots to all federally qualified voters currently living outside the U.S. who have submitted a valid absentee application. These voters are covered under the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) and the state's Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act (UMOVA).

“Election Day is quickly approaching and the men and women living and serving outside the U.S. are afforded the same access to the ballot as any other qualified voter,” said Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver. “New Mexico's county clerks do an incredible job of making sure these voters have everything they need to participate in the upcoming election, and sending military-overseas voters their ballots beginning 45 days before the general election is an essential part of that.”

Voters who are qualified to receive a military-overseas ballot are U.S. citizens and their spouses whose permanent residence is in New Mexico but who are currently overseas or outside the state due to their military service.

The state's UMOVA – following the federal requirements of the UOCAVA and the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act – requires county clerks to send ballots to military and overseas voters 45 days prior to the general election. Federally qualified voters covered under UMOVA, and who are registered to vote before the October 9, 2018, voter registration deadline, may choose to have their ballot sent to them via mail, email, or fax. These voters can request a ballot from their county clerk or online at [NMvote.org](http://NMvote.org) up until the Friday before the general election, which this year is Friday, November 2. Ballots must be returned to the appropriate county clerk no later than 7:00 pm on Election Day.

More information on military and overseas voting in New Mexico can be found at [the Secretary of State's website](#).

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