

Michigan's Electronic Delivery and Return Portal (EDARP)

Expanding Secure Access for Military and Overseas Voters

Allowing eligible overseas active military members the option to receive, mark, and return an absentee ballot through a secure online portal.

Presented by:
Aghogho Edevbie
Michigan Deputy Secretary of State



Understanding Elections in Michigan

Michigan's philosophy:
Every eligible voter should have multiple secure ways to participate in democracy



We have intentionally built a system that gives voters options:

- ✓ **Vote by mail**
- ✓ **Vote early in person for at least 9 days**
- ✓ **Vote on Election Day**
- ✓ **Use secure ballot drop boxes**
- ✓ **Register and vote on the same day**
- ✓ **Track absentee ballots online**
- ✓ **Electronic ballot return for overseas military voters**

Michigan's History of Serving Military and Overseas Voters

Michigan has long prioritized serving military and overseas voters because these voters often face the greatest logistical barriers to participation

Before MOVE and EDARP

Historically, military and overseas voters often relied entirely on international mail. That meant:

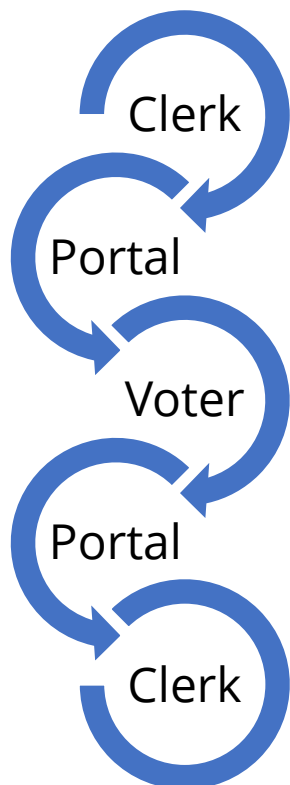
- Long delivery times
- Lost or delayed ballots
- Limited access to printers and scanners
- Difficulties meeting election deadlines
- Increased uncertainty about whether a ballot would arrive on time

EDARP: A Portal Overview

Michigan's Electronic Delivery and Return Portal is a secure online system we created to:

- ✓ **Help Michigan's local election officials efficiently and consistently deliver ballots electronically to UOCAVA voters.**
- ✓ **Reduce the risk of UOCAVA voters inadvertently spoiling their ballots.**
- ✓ **Give overseas military voters more options to return their ballots on time.**

How EDARP Works



For Clerks

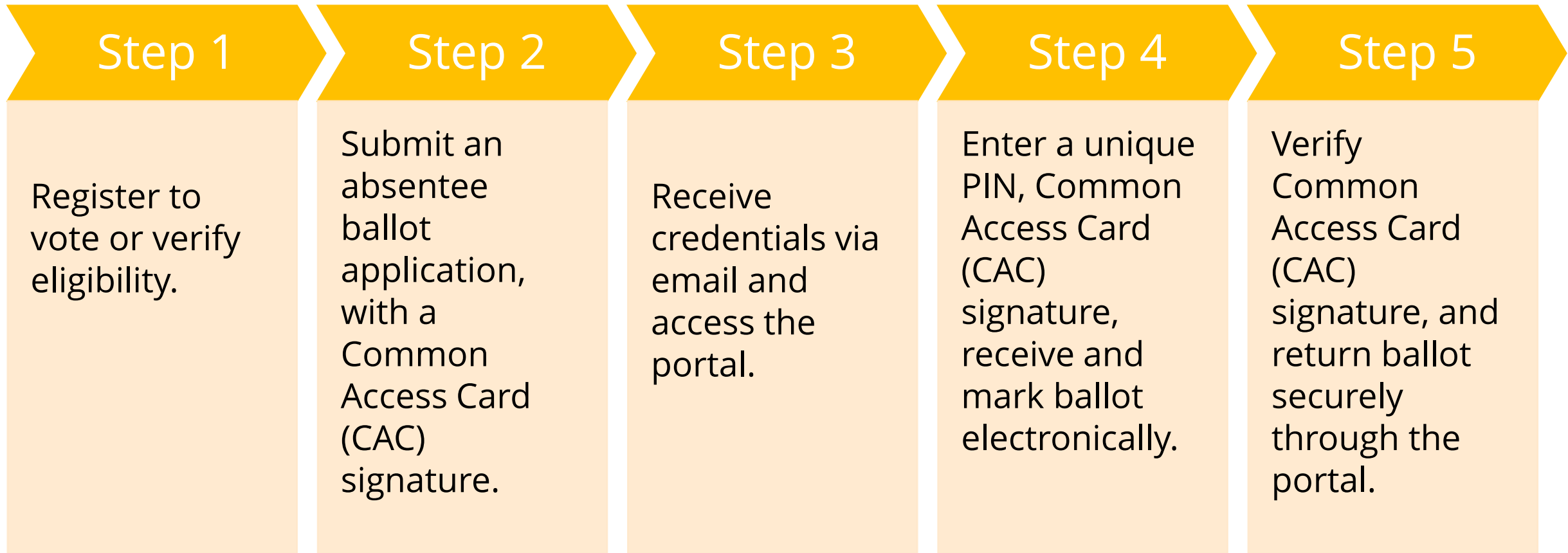
- ✓ Verify eligibility
- ✓ Issue electronic ballot
- ✓ Receive submitted ballot
- ✓ Process according to established procedures
- ✓ Maintain chain of custody
- ✓ Record and tabulate ballot

For Voters

- ✓ Request access
- ✓ Receive ballot
- ✓ Mark ballot
- ✓ Review selections
- ✓ Return ballot securely
- ✓ Receive confirmation

How Do Eligible Military Voters Access EDARP?

The process is intentionally designed to be simple, secure, and user friendly

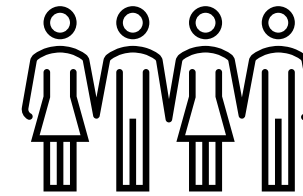


Who Can Use EDARP?

While electronic ballot return is limited to overseas military voters, other overseas voters can use the portal to receive and mark their ballots.

Eligible Users

- ✓ Active-duty military members serving overseas
- ✓ Eligible military spouses and dependents
- ✓ Overseas civilian voters

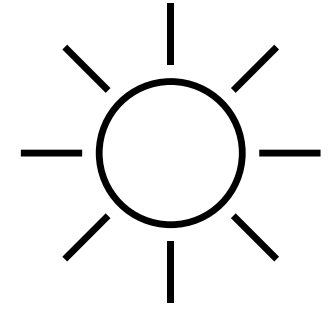


Why the Difference?

Military and overseas voters face unique challenges:

- Frequent moves
- Deployment
- International mail disruptions
- Geographic isolation
- Time zone differences

A Bright Future for Democracy



EDARP has been a tremendous success for Michigan.

Michigan has created a system that allows eligible military and overseas voters to participate from virtually anywhere in the world.



Military and overseas voter participation has increased since EDARP's implementation.



With EDARP, there has been a sharp increase in the actual return of MOVE ballots.

Same Commitment to Election Security

EDARP is a secure electronic platform that safeguards Michigan's MOVE ballots.

This advancement was built with the same principles that guide all Michigan elections:

- ✓ Voter verification
- ✓ Authentication processes
- ✓ Audit capabilities
- ✓ Secure transmission protocols
- ✓ Chain of custody procedures
- ✓ Bipartisan oversight

Thank You!

Questions?

Aghogho Edevbie

Deputy Secretary of State
Michigan Department of State
EdevbieA@michigan.gov

Michigan Bureau of Elections

Michigan Department of State
800-292-5973
Elections@Michigan.gov