STRENGTHENING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

A Guide for Developing an Action Plan to Increase Civic Learning, Political Engagement, and Voter Participation Among College Students

FIFTH EDITION, JUNE 2025

FOREWORD

Eight years ago, members of the Students Learn Students Vote (SLSV) Coalition published the first *Strengthening American Democracy* Action Planning Guide in an effort to help institutions of higher learning provide meaningful experiences and nonpartisan resources to habitually graduate more civically-informed and democratically active students.

Since then, the nonpartisan campus civic engagement space has transformed through the remarkable work of voter mobilization and nonpartisan democratic engagement efforts proliferating on campuses and in communities throughout the country. Students, campus faculty, and administrators, as well as local and national organizations, have taken the principles of this guide and put them into practice, making their mark on our democracy in the process.

Year-round civic engagement efforts, guided in part by an action plan, enabled campuses to increase their student institutional voting rates from 52% in 2016 to 66% in 2020 (as noted in the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education's (2021) **Democracy Counts 2020:** Record-Breaking Turnout and Student Resiliency). Strategic initiatives including **Ask Every Student** — which incorporates voter registration into existing campus processes — ensure outreach to every eligible student. Colleges and universities have more available resources and strategies to help them strive for full participation by every eligible student voter.

These have served as powerful tools to promote nonpartisan civic learning and voter engagement among college students of all contexts and backgrounds and among campus populations as a whole. By definition, "strengthening American democracy" requires approaching civic engagement and voter participation among all eligible populations, including those historically underrepresented in U.S. elections — something that leaders at partner organizations connected to the SLSV Coalition have long emphasized.

While sustained and thoughtful efforts are essential, they do not guarantee consistent or linear progress. In 2022, the most recent federal election cycle for which national student voting data are available, the average institutional voting rate declined to 31.3%, nearly nine percentage points lower than the previous midterm election, though still higher than 2014 voting rates before the SLSV Coalition existed and campus action planning was promoted. Additionally, racial disparities in voting rates widened in 2022 after years of progress in narrowing voting rates by race, as noted in **Democracy Counts 2022:** Student Engagement in a Midterm Year.

This decline in 2022 underscores the continued need for intentional, sustained action. It is important to recognize, however, that since 2016, when campuses began implementing structured action planning efforts, national institutional voting rates had increased with each successive election. The decline in 2022 represents the first such reversal compared to a similar election year. Nevertheless, campuses that have deeply institutionalized nonpartisan civic engagement and

FOREWORD

voter participation initiatives experienced higher student voter turnout rates than less engaged institutions. Participating in comprehensive action planning remains a critical strategy for fostering student voter engagement. Over the longer term, the data demonstrates that sustained, strategic engagement efforts are yielding meaningful progress and are essential to closing gaps and advancing student participation in democracy.

This fifth edition of the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* was updated with this context in mind. Colleges and universities will encounter new and unfamiliar challenges and opportunities as they navigate a policy and regulatory landscape that can conflict with its core institutional values and mission.

This resource also includes updated support for how to use the *Guide* and assess progress via a rubric, as well as additional resources from across the SLSV Coalition that can be found in the **SLSV Resource Library**.

We hope that the content outlined in this guide will strengthen campus efforts to educate the next generation of civically informed and democratically active students and serve as a useful framework for the institutionalization of this work on campuses everywhere. Further, as campuses navigate state requirements such as those in **California**, **Maryland**, and **Minnesota** regarding campus action planning, our aim is to complement these state requirements and to provide guidance on creating holistic, nonpartisan student-centered programs and resources intended to advance campus civic culture. We look forward to your feedback and thank you for all that you do for our students and our democracy.

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ACTION PLANS

INTRODUCTION

This guide is designed to help faculty, staff, students, and other campus stakeholders write strong action plans to increase nonpartisan civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation on college and university campuses. It provides a framework for developing and documenting institutional goals and strategies for fostering a civic ethos on campus and institutionalizing elements of civic learning, voter participation, and engagement in democracy into the curriculum and co-curriculum that persist regardless of election cycles. This guide is not meant to be prescriptive and should be adapted to your institutional circumstances.

Completing the action planning process can help an institution assess current efforts, set short- and long-term goals, plan and implement strategies and tactics, assess progress toward goals, and continuously work to improve nonpartisan civic learning and democratic engagement efforts. This work can and should be collaborative and occur in a team setting. Depending on the campus, this may be accomplished in a committee, coalition, task force, or working group. The hope is that through this process, the institution will be able to garner additional support and resources, change culture, improve systems and policies, build lasting capacity, and ultimately institutionalize nonpartisan democratic engagement efforts.

This fifth edition of the guide includes the self-assessment rubric originally released with the second edition of the guide. The fifth edition highlights efforts regarding voter mobilization and the *Ask Every Student* program as well as the importance of **succession planning** within an institution's leadership to ensure continuity of the work. It is strongly suggested that completed action plans be shared on the institution's website, along with campus **National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement** (NSLVE) reports. Together, these demonstrate an institution's belief in transparency and its commitment to broadening and deepening civic learning, political engagement, and student voter participation.

THE ACTION PLANNING PROCESS

An institution's action plan is a roadmap that documents specific strategies for starting new programs and initiatives, or improving existing ones. It should help you take your goals and break them down into steps so that desired results can be achieved and help you increase efficiency and accountability. Action planning is the process used to develop and document the action plan.

The following steps are a guide for carrying out the action planning process in general. Feel free to amend them as needed to work within your institution and surrounding community's culture.

1.

ASSIGN LEADER(S)

Action planning requires group collaboration and individual leadership. For best results, choose a leader to facilitate the process. The leader may be internal, though an external facilitator can provide a neutral voice in discussions.



ASSESS CURRENT WORK AND OUTCOMES

If you're new to the space, start by asking the stakeholders you know who they know that engages in voter education and outreach. Campuses are dynamic places! If you're updating your plan, do your due diligence to see if new student groups, faculty, or departments are engaged in election work.

This process should help you know what's already happening and help you identify areas for improvement.

2.

ASSEMBLE A TEAM AND DEVELOP A TIMELINE

A team helps establish a collective vision. Start by building a list of who you want and recruiting them to a low stakes introductory meeting. Aim for a diverse team representing appropriate constituent groups, internal and external. Help those who want to be involved set clear expectations for their roles. The campus team should update the action plan every two years for midterm and presidential elections and include plans for local and primary elections.



SET SMARTIE GOALS

Use the data you collected from your assessment to set goals that motivate your team and will make the biggest impact for student civic engagement.

5.

PLAN WORK

Work with your team to strategically plan activities that will assist you in accomplishing goals. If you're new to action planning, feel free to take ideas that have worked at other campuses (see example plans here). If you have a well-developed civic engagement coalition, feel free to design new activities to achieve your evolving goals.

7.

IMPLEMENT PLAN

Work with your team to make the plan a reality! Host regular meetings to check-in on your goals versus actuals and keep each other accountable to the plan.

9.

REVIEW THE PLAN

Your plan should be a living document, so revise it as needed based on how things went. If you hit your goals, how can you build on your success to do even better next time? If you didn't, what adjustments should be made?

6.

DOCUMENT PLAN

Write an action plan that captures the goals and activities you've agreed on, and the timeline for making it happen. This document should serve as your team's roadmap for success.

8.

ASSESS PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS

Use data to analyze the impact of what you did and determine next steps.

Did you know...

Your campus can receive recognition for its nonpartisan action plan through programs like the <u>Voter Friendly Campus</u> and ALL IN <u>Highly Established Action Plan Seal</u>?

Your campus also has the opportunity to receive feedback and to resubmit your institutional plan up to two times per cycle through the ALL IN program? Action plans can be submitted to <u>allin.vote/AP-submissions</u> on **December 15, 2025, May 31, 2026,** and **October <u>1, 2026.</u>**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

These principles should be kept in mind as the instituiton's voting coalition develops its action plan. A strong action plan, designed to increase civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation among college students should be:

COMPREHENSIVE

Strategies and tactics should focus on local, state, and federal elections; include election and non-election related programming; and be nonpartisan. Strategies and tactics should focus on registering, educating, and turning out eligible students; and engaging all students in civic learning and the democratic process.

CONTINUOUS

Strategies and tactics should occur every semester or term of every year, not just during an election cycle.

INTEGRATED

Strategies and tactics should be curricular and co-curricular.

INTENTIONAL

Goals, strategies, and tactics should be informed by data and evidence-based research.

PERVASIVE

Strategies and tactics should occur across campus and reach all students.

DEEP

Strategies and tactics should not be marginal or add-ons. They should be embedded in the curriculum and co-curriculum of the campus and tied to the institution's learning outcomes.

INNOVATIVE

Strategies and tactics should improve existing efforts and include new and original ideas.

INCLUSIVE

Campus coalition, goals, strategies and tactics authentically bring traditionally excluded individuals and/or groups into processes, activities, and decision/policy making in a way that shares power.

EQUITABLE

Goals, strategies, and tactics should focus efforts on and distribute resources to campus populations that have historically engaged in civic learning, democratic engagement, and voter participation at lower levels.

Definitions of frequently used terms are included to provide a common understanding of terminology used within higher education and this document. These terms carry different connections and interpretations depending on an institution's context; however the goal is to ensure that through this document all parties are informed of the meaning of the words as they are used in the action planning context.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT	is any act intended to improve or influence a community through deliberation, collaboration, and reciprocal relationships and community-building.				
CIVIC LEARNING	is promoting the education of students for engaged citizenship through democratic participation in their communities, respect and appreciation of diversity, applied learning, and social responsibility.				
CURRICULUM	is an academic course of study; the knowledge students are expected to learn in the classroom.				
DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT	is a combination of promoting the education of students for engaged participation through democratic mechanisms and principles in their communities, respect and appreciation of diversity, applied learning, and social responsibility.				
DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION	is civic engagement that involves democratic processes (e.g., when an organization puts a matter to a vote and there is individual participation).				
FULL PARTICIPATION	occurs when all students are asked to participate in the democratic process.				
INSTITUTIONALIZATION	is the process of integrating nonpartisan civic engagement and education into an institution's existing operations and culture in a sustainable way. This work happens not just in federal election years, but all years, and lasts long after any one person or team's time on campus.				
NATIONAL STUDY OF LEARNING, VOTING, AND ENGACEMENT (NSLVE)	offers colleges and universities an opportunity to learn their student registration and voting rates and, for interested campuses, a closer examination of their campus climate for political learning and engagement and correlations between specific student learning experiences and voting.				
POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT OR POLITICAL PARTICIPATION	is civic engagement that emphasizes governmental institutions and/or power (e.g., voting in a local, state, or federal election). Participating in the political process also occurs by making one's own opinions and beliefs known outside of the electoral process (e.g., protesting, campaigning, performing jury duty, running for office, community organizing).				
S.M.A.R.T.I.E.	is an acronym used to guide goal-setting: Specific, Measurable, Ambitious, Realistic, Time-bound, Inclusive, and Equitable.				
VOTER REGISTRATION	is the process of successfully completing the application to be able to cast a ballot in an election.				
VOTER EDUCATION	is the curricular and co-curricular activities offered to students and designed to facilitate civic learning, political engagement, and increase participation in elections.				
VOTER MOBILIZATION	is the act of implementing tactics to encourage potential voters to follow through with becoming voters.				

TEMPLATE AND GUIDING QUESTIONS

I EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This section provides a summary of the campus democratic engagement action plan. It should be clear, concise, and allow the reader to easily understand what the campus is doing and why. It distills the plan into just a few paragraphs or pages so that the reader can rapidly become acquainted with the action plan. Consider sketching out an executive summary as a starting point and then revisiting and finalizing as the final step in your action plan development.

The following questions should be addressed in the executive summary.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- Which individuals (e.g., name(s), title(s), department(s)) and/or organizations developed this plan?
- 2. What is the purpose of the plan?
- Where will this action plan be implemented? For instance, provide the following details: name of the institution, the number of campuses the work will take place at, campus locations (city and state), in-person, online, or hybrid.
- 4. What are the short- and long-term goal(s) of the plan? What are the goals of this plan? Provide an overview of what is detailed in the Goals section.
- 5. What is the intended duration of the plan (when the plan will go into place and finish)? When will the action plan be updated?
- 6. How will the action plan be implemented?

II LEADERSHIP

The leadership section of a campus action plan describes the team and leadership that is responsible and accountable for the institution's efforts to increase civic learning and democratic engagement among its students. Building a campus coalition and working group not only increases capacity for your nonpartisan democratic engagement efforts, but it will ensure long-term sustainability for your team, allow you to strengthen community partnerships, and pave the way for more student leadership opportunities on your campus. Campus coalitions can grow and evolve over time to best meet the civic learning and democratic engagement needs of your institution. The working group and its leadership team should reflect your campus and community, with intentional and equitable inclusion of diverse voices that may not traditionally do this work or have the highest voting rates on your campus. Beyond the recruitment of diverse working group members, it's important to consider and describe how exactly members will be involved in order to leverage their strengths and promote inclusivity as central to your success. For more information on building a strong campus coalition, including a mapping activity to help you identify gaps in your coalition, you can use *Ask Every Student*'s **Coalition Building Curriculum**.

It is also important to consider how you will maintain continuity in your working group and coalition efforts through staff and student transitions throughout the years. Whether it's due to graduations, shifting responsibilities/priorities, staff turnover, or other reasons, it should be expected that transitions will take place and planning for those transitions and leadership successions is crucial to ensure this work continues for years to come. Keeping an up-to-date and publicly available document with your goals, plans, partner contacts, and other relevant information can help transitions go smoothly. Additionally, listing working group members with their roles/responsibilities can help connect their working group participation to their role, rather than them specifically. For additional information on managing staff and student transitions, you can also access the <u>SLSV Coalition's</u> <u>Transition Management Resource</u>.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- For the following partnerships, or other ones you've considered, identify who is already engaged into your working group efforts and what role they play. Are there opportunities to expand their role? For partners that aren't engaged yet, which are important ones to prioritize building relations with during your next action planning period and why? How can you use existing partnerships to accomplish that?
- **a.** Senior administrative leaders (e.g., college president, provost, dean of students)
- **b.** Academic departments and faculty members (e.g., faculty senate members, political science professor(s), fine arts department)
- **C.** Student affairs (e.g., orientation, student life, civic and community engagement)
- **d.** Students and student organizations (e.g., student government, student organizations, studentathletes, Greek Life, Leadership within STEM majors, compensated or volunteer student leaders)
- Community and/or national (private, nonprofit, government) organizations (e.g., <u>ALL IN Campus</u> <u>Democracy Challenge, Campus Vote Project</u>, <u>League of Women Voters</u>)
- f. Additional campus departments such as government affairs, legal, IT, registrar's office, communications department.
- **g.** Local election officials (if local election officials have refused to collaborate with you, what other elected and non-elected levers can be used to influence their office or slowly bring them in more?)

II LEADERSHIP CONT.

GUIDING QUESTIONS CONT.

- 2. Who is this person(s) and/or office(s) held accountable to, what is their reporting line? If student-staff or community members are involved, how can they be compensated for their involvement?
- **3.** What are working group members' unique strengths and, with those in mind, what are their responsibilities?
- **4.** How is the working group inclusive of different campus and community stakeholders?
- 5. How does the working group include leaders that represent different campus and community stakeholders? Is your working group reflective of your student and community populations?
- 6. What other offices on campus need to be involved? (e.g., website or portal management, registrar, university relations)

- 7. How are you keeping working group members engaged over time and addressing stakeholder turnover?
- 8. If someone in the working group stops showing up and doing the work or needs to step away, what steps will be taken to ensure the efforts continue?
- **9.** What is your leadership succession plan? Is leading this work part of someone's job description? How will this work continue if key leaders change roles or leave the institution?
- **10.** Does the work of your coalition depend too much on one person? How can more ownership be delegated to increase the stability of your programs? How will you train new leaders that come into this work and how often will you revisit this structure?

Succession planning is the process to plan for expected and unexpected changes to campus voting coalition leadership roles. It is used to identify and develop new, potential leaders who can move into leadership roles when they become vacant and have a process to onboard these members. Your plan can be inclusive of both staff and student transitions and may include recruitment tactics for your overall coalition. For more information on succession planning, check out <u>this tool on transition</u> <u>management</u> from SLSV.

III COMMITMENT

This section describes how the institution demonstrates its commitment to increasing civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation. A public institutional commitment is critical for improvement across campus; it signals to all stakeholders that these efforts are significant and long-term. Before action planning begins, the working group should first explore the process's underlying context, motivations, and commitment. This process also evaluates if voter registration, education, and engagement information is featured in campus-wide materials, if the campus supports placing a polling location on campus and is willing to make a building available, and examines how voter engagement is embedded in the campus culture by being included in processes that all new students go through every year, even in non-presidential election years.

EXAMPLES INCLUDE:

Dedicated staffers to civic education; curriculum incorporation; funding increases; use of Federal Work-Study (FWS) for civic education and voter registration; senior leadership part of the voting coalition team; senior leadership signing the **ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation**; getting a polling location on campus; having a student voting page on the institution website; poll worker or Election Day flexibility for students and staff; incorporation of civic education into long-standing campus traditions like orientation and homecoming; making student IDs compliant with voter ID regulations; allowing nonpartisan voting organizations to be registered student organizations; and more.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- How does the mission and vision of your campus align with your work to increase student voter engagement in our democracy?
- 2. How does the institution and its senior leadership demonstrate commitment to improving civic learning and democratic engagement? Leadership should be viewed as the campus/university president/chancellor, provost, and key administrative members. Is there an explicit, visible commitment on the part of the governing board, president/chancellor, and senior leadership?
- a. Is the commitment communicated within the institution? To whom, specifically, and how? How often?
- b. Is the commitment communicated outside the institution (i.e., to external stakeholders and the general public)? To whom, specifically, and how? For instance, senior leadership signing the ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation.
- **c.** If your campus is part of a system of campuses, is there an outward commitment to democratic engagement from that level?

- Is educating for civic learning and democratic engagement a pervasive part of institutional culture? Is it ongoing, consistent, systematic, and sustainable across programs, departments, and the entire institution? How do you know?
- 4. How is the institution's commitment reflected in existing statements and documents (e.g., mission statement, vision, core values, strategic plan)? Has the institution created and implemented an action plan in previous years?
- 5. What are the institution's overall civic learning outcomes? Does this show up in other ways including graduate education, distance education, etc.? Is there a process in place to ensure that outcomes are measured and met?
- 6. How is educating for civic learning and democratic engagement included in the general education curriculum and/or co-curriculum?

IV LANDSCAPE

This section offers an overview of the nonpartisan democratic engagement at an institution. It describes the factors and dynamics that influence student voter turnout, such as what kind of voter engagement support your campus receives from leadership or the assistance put in place to make voting more accessible for students on your campus. Another example of important information you can incorporate in your landscape is a self-assessment of your current work.

A self-assessment of current work and data (e.g., established learning outcomes, assessment data, curricular and co-curricular activities, resources) provides the institution with a comprehensive understanding of current efforts and student engagement with those efforts. It also provides the opportunity for the institution to evaluate those efforts and determine areas of strength and those needing improvement.

It's important that when conducting an analysis of your landscape you reach out to as many stakeholders as possible to best understand the campus' reach and engagement. Stakeholders that you may want to engage include:

- Faculty and department heads
- Student government and student group leaders
- Student affairs staff
- Local election officials
- Community partners (local and national)

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- Are civic learning and democratic engagement overall campus learning outcomes? If so, how is your institution defining civic learning and democratic engagement? What are the learning outcomes and how are they measured?
- Do you have access to assessment data for your campus? If so, what does assessment data show about the political climate and democratic engagement on campus? How does this data compare to that of peer institutions? See the following page for examples.
- **3.** How is civic learning and democratic engagement present in the curriculum?
- a. In which courses is it taught?
- **b.** In which courses is it listed as a learning outcome?
- **C.** Are courses connected to civic learning and democratic engagement available to all students or a particular group of students (e.g., only incoming first-years, political science majors)?

- 4. How is civic learning and democratic engagement present in the co-curriculum?
- a. What departments or types of classes tend to highlight these concepts?
- **b.** What initiatives, programs, and activities focus on this?
- **C.** What student groups and clubs are engaged?
- **d.** What are student leaders and student groups doing to participate with civic learning and democratic engagement?
- **5.** What internal barriers (e.g., limited funding, staff resistance, lack of leadership, declining student life activities) prevent the institution from being successful?
- 6. What external barriers (e.g., election laws, voter ID laws, lack of proximity to polling location) prevent the institution from being successful?

IV LANDSCAPE CONT.

GUIDING QUESTIONS CONT.

- 7. What is the demographic makeup of the institution's student body? Are there demographic groups that have lower rates of engagement? How is this information considered when mapping out civic learning and democratic engagement efforts?
- 8. What internal and external factors lead to successes? For example, do you have the president's support (internal) or is your campus located in a full vote-by-mail state (external)?
- a. What internal and external resources are currently available to help the institution be successful? For example, does your campus have a full-time staff person to lead the work on your campus (internal) or does your campus utilize the Ask Every Student Toolkit for their voter registration efforts (external)?
- **9.** What additional resources are needed to help the institution be successful?

ASSESSMENT DATA EXAMPLES

Ask Every Student First Step Form

sls.vote/aesfirststep

The Ask Every Student First Step Form assists campuses in applying the Ask Every Student Framework to their campus context. After filling out the form, campuses will automatically receive a response with their answers and recommendations for how they can best use the Ask Every Student Toolkit for their context

Higher Education Research Institute and Cooperative Institutional Research Program

heri.ucla.edu

CIRP is a national longitudinal study of the American higher education system. The CIRP longitudinal program consists of the Freshman Survey (TFS), Young First College Year (YFCY) Survey, Diverse Learning Environments Survey (DLE), and the College Senior Survey (CSS).

IV LANDSCAPE CONT.

ASSESSMENT DATA EXAMPLES CONT.

Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement

bcsse.indiana.edu

BCSSE collects data about entering college students' high school academic and co-curricular experiences, as well as their expectations for participating in educationally purposeful activities during the first college year.

National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement

idhe.tufts.edu/nslve

NSLVE offers colleges and universities an opportunity to learn their student registration and voting rates and, for interested campuses, a closer examination of their campus climate for political learning and engagement, as well as correlations between specific student learning experiences and voting.

National Survey of Student Engagement

nsse.indiana.edu

NSSE annually collects information at hundreds of four-year colleges and universities about first-year and senior students' participation in programs and activities that institutions provide for their learning and personal development. The results provide an estimate of how undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from attending college.

Community College Survey of Student Engagement

ccsse.org

CCSSE provides information on student engagement. The survey asks questions that assess institutional practices and student behavior that are correlated highly with student learning and student retention.

For additional methods of institutional assessment refer to this resource.

V GOALS

This section describes what the team (whether that's a few leaders starting this work, a long-standing vote coalition, or anything in between) hopes to achieve. By setting goals, the team can flesh out a plan to achieve results and assess impact. It is suggested that prior to setting goals, there should be a clear vision of what the team wants civic engagement and voter access to look like at the institution. Long-term goals help the team achieve its vision for the institution – what would it actually look like for students on campus to be able to vote without impediment? Short-term goals break long-term goals into manageable parts — what barriers need to be eliminated for students to vote or be civically engaged? How can the institution actually help make it easier for students to vote? Goals should be **S.M.A.R.T.I.E.** – specific, measurable, ambitious, realistic, time-bound, inclusive, and equitable. *Keep local and state regulations in mind as you set your S.M.A.R.T.I.E goals. Campuses will not be penalized for abiding by their local regulations.*

As you set your goals, prioritize institutionalization: incorporating civic engagement into the fabric of your institution (defined further on page 10). The best goals have a long-lasting impact such that voter access and turnout continue long after your time at the institution.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

LONG-TERM GOALS

- 1. What is the long-term vision the team hopes to achieve for the institution?
- 2. What knowledge, skills, and capacities (learning outcomes) does the institution want students to achieve and graduate with in order to be active and informed?
- **3.** What are the outcomes the team wants to see at the institution over the next 10 years?
- **4.** Are the goals S.M.A.R.T.I.E. (specific, measurable, ambitious, realistic, time-bound, inclusive, and equitable)?
- **5.** Do the goals contribute to expanding access to voting for a variety of students?
- 6. Are these goals informed by principles of reaching the entire campus population while being mindful of local regulations?
- **7.** Are these goals informed by data and research?

EXAMPLES

- » By 2028, student voting rates at the institution will increase by 20 percentage points compared to 2020 turnout levels to 68%, with students of color voting at the same rates as white students.
- » By 2028, implement the Ask Every Student tactic to add electoral engagement to "First Year 101" class syllabi as a learning objective to the course.
- » By 2028, incorporate civic learning and democratic engagement into the general education curriculum.
- » By 2028, secure an on-campus polling location in a highly-trafficked area of campus.

V GOALS CONT.

GUIDING QUESTIONS CONT.

SHORT-TERM GOALS

- What outcomes does the institution need to reach over the next three years to stay on track to reach its longer-term vision? How do the goals of the campus voting coalition contribute to the institution's overall goals to ensure everyone who is eligible to do so can participate in democracy? How do the goals support the institution's strategic plan?
- 2. What resources does the institution need to ensure its longer-term vision is within reach?
- **3.** Who does the institution need to involve in order to reach its longer-term vision?
- **4.** Does your campus voting coalition have the capacity and/or support to achieve this goal?
- 5. Does the goal fit the S.M.A.R.T.I.E framework (specific, measurable, ambitious, realistic, time-bound, inclusive, and equitable)?
- **6.** Does the goal solve an immediate issue student voters face?
- 7. Is the goal informed by data and research?
- 8. What does your institution need to do to best mobilize voters for the next election (whether local, state, federal primaries or general elections)?

EXAMPLES

- » By 2026, student voter registration rates at the institution will increase by 15 percentage points compared to 2020 registration levels to 92%.
- » By 2026, the institution will incorporate civic learning and democratic engagement into 25% of courses
- » By 2026, the team will solidify the practice of the president sending a letter to all students every semester about the importance of being civically engaged and participating in elections.
- » By 2026, student voting rates at the institution will increase by 10 percentage points over 2020 turnout levels, with students of color voting at the same rates as white students.
- » By 2026, at least 30% of our team/ working group leadership will represent marginalized communities on our campus.
- » By the end of 2026, the institution will raise \$25,000 from alumni to be used to carry out the tactics in this plan to increase nonpartisan voter engagement.
- » By the end of 2026, the team will establish a relationship with the local election official and invite them to join our working group

VI STRATEGY

The strategy section of a campus action plan summarizes how an campus coalition intends to build a culture and infrastructure that supports nonpartisan civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation. Put simply, it outlines a strategic plan for this work. A campus's strategy should include a plan for achieving short- and long-term goals, and should consider the means of achieving what is laid out in the other segments of an action plan. Development of a strategy should include consideration of the coordination of campus departments and staff, programmatic efforts, volunteer and student groups and individuals, and, ultimately, the infusion of a broad civic ethos into the mission of the institution.

Strategy can be infused into culture and infrastructure through a variety of methods; there is no one methodology for all campuses to follow. For instance, while many campuses are able to quickly articulate a variety of programmatic approaches, (e.g., listing tabling days for voter registration or campus debate watch parties), it is just as important for campuses to be exploring long-term strategy.

To support short- and long-term strategic capacity, campus coalitions are encourage to utilize resources such as Federal Work-Study, the *Ask Every Student* program, and the Civic Holidays (see examples on page 22 & 23).



SHORT-TERM GUIDING QUESTIONS

This section should describe shorter-term tactics for improving student voter registration, education, and turnout around elections (e.g., by including election deadlines and dates in a campus calendar of events). You can find numerous examples of successful campus strategies for nonpartisan student voter registration, eductation, and turnout with this **Programming Resource**.

1. What is the work?

- a. What are the planned activities and initiatives related to voter registration, voter education, voter turnout and mobilization, voter access, and democratic engagement?
- What would it take to Ask Every Student on campus about participating in our democracy? For resources and tools to do so visit: <u>www.studentvoting.org</u>.
- **c.** Where will each activity occur (e.g., in a public campus space, in the classroom, virtually)?
- 2. Who is responsible for implementing each planned strategy and tactic? What strategies and tactics are planned and led by students? Refer to your leadership section to help dole out responsibility.
- **3.** Who is the audience for each strategy and tactic?
- **a.** What methods will be used to make strategies and tactics accessible to all?
- **b.** Are you including tactics that focus on reaching every student, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds?
- 4. Where will each activity occur on and off campus?

- 5. When will the work happen and what preparations are required beforehand to make it happen? Are individuals consistently (i.e., quarterly, semesterly or yearly) trained to ensure conversations remain nonpartisan, culturally sensitive, accurate, and that the voter registration processes result in zero errors?
- 6. Why is each strategy and tactic being implemented, and what is the goal for each activity?

Consider ways into which your campus can increase strategic capacity through the nonpartisan civic learning, political participation and student voter tactics your institution implements.

- Campuses are able to use Federal Work-Study funds to support nonpartisan engagement efforts through student employment programs. In In April 2022, the US Department of Education's <u>Dear Colleague Letter</u> made this possible. You can find details on utilizing said funds here: <u>allin.vote/fws-toolkit</u>
- Many institutions are able to increase strategic capacity by implementing **Ask Every Student** tactics into processes that reach all of their students who are eligible to vote. These could be pathways like course integration, orientation, parking pass pick up and others. All of these processes are open sourced in the Ask Every Student Toolkit available at www.studentvoting.org/toolkit.

VI STRATEGY CONT.

LONG-TERM GUIDING QUESTIONS

Consider and describe long-term strategies for further developing a campus ethos and set of experiences that help students develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for full participation in our democracy. Such strategies might consider staffing, curricular offerings, cross-campus collaborations, and ways in which civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation are woven into campus communications and campus-wide events from orientation to convocation and graduation. These strategies should be aligned with your short-term goals described in the previous section.

- How would you describe a campus committed to educating for civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation? What would it look like and how would you know this commitment existed? (I.e., "We have a campus coalition with one full-time staffer, one student lead, and three student support volunteers every fall and spring semester. We have committed funding for at least two 50-100-person events per academic year.")
- 2. How might your institution deepen capacity and competence related to diversity, equity, and inclusion in tandem with civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation?*
- 3. What will it take to build toward this vision of sustained commitment beyond a single election cycle (e.g., resources, curricular offerings, staffing)?
- 4. Where does work need to happen in order to institutionalize this vision (e.g., faculty senate, student government, division of student affairs)?
- **a.** Who is responsible within your working group for catalyzing or leading each effort? One step further, how would you know that this commitment has been institutionalized?
- **b.** Does your coalition have a succession plan that continually involves and builds up new student leaders, as well as provides for staffing transitions?

- 5. On what timeline will efforts to enact this vision occur? (Think in terms of years; e.g., in year one your institution will accomplish x. In year two your institution will accomplish x. And so on...).
- 6. How are you ensuring that your shortterm tactics are embedded into the campus culture, and can outlast the individuals leading that effort (accounting for turnover/team member transition)?

Consider anchoring your tactics around <u>civic holidays</u>. A civic holiday is a day (or days) of action that is expressly focused on encouraging all citizens of the United States to be able to freely and confidently exercise their right to vote through community celebration. Here are a few you may want to consider integrating into your strategy:

- National Voter Registration Day -Third Tuesday in September
- National Voter Education Week -First week in October
- Vote Early Day -About a week prior to Election Day
- Election Hero Day Monday before Election Day

For more information about Civic Holidays visit: civicholidays.org

*Campuses are encouraged to follow their local and state regulations. Campus action plan scores based on the corresponding Strengthening American Democracy Rubric will not be impacted negatively for campuses abiding by their local regulations.

VII NSLVE AS A RESOURCE FOR COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

The **National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement** (NSLVE) project of Tisch College's **<u>CIRCLE</u>** provides colleges and universities with research reports and other tools that inform civic learning and non-partisan civic engagement efforts on their campuses. A robust civic education for all young people is vital to the health of our democracy, and the NSLVE project is one part of CIRCLE's commitment to, and leadership in the field of, research-based civic education. NSLVE was specifically designed to be in compliance with FERPA requirements regarding directory information, the disclosure of information pursuant to the directory information exception, the disclosure of personally identifiable information under the studies' exception, and the de-identified records' provision of the Act.

Institutions use their NSLVE reports to gauge student interest and engagement in democracy, to identify and close equity gaps in student civic participation, in classes as a teaching tool, in campuswide discussions about engagement in democracy, for evaluation and accreditation processes, as a required data point in the application to the Carnegie Foundation for Engaged Campus status, and to catalyze involvement by faculty members across academic disciplines. More than 1,000 U.S. higher education institutions across nearly every state, and of every type, participate in NSLVE. For each of these campuses, NSLVE provides a free report containing aggregate voter registration and voting rates for their students. With a database of over 10 million de-identified records for the 2012–2022 midterm and presidential elections, NSLVE is a robust research tool to advance civic learning in higher education.

How do campuses use NSLVE Data? Campuses have used their reports to:

- Gauge student interest and engagement in democracy
- Identify and close equity gaps in student voter participation
- Use in classes as a teaching tool
- Use in campus-wide discussions about engagement in democracy (<u>using this discussion guide and planning tool</u>)
- Support their evaluation and accreditation processes
- Develop outreach materials for student admissions processes
- Submit as a required data point in the application to the Carnegie Foundation for the Elective Classification for Community Engagement
- Catalyze involvement by faculty members across disciplines, moving beyond the typical fields such as political science

Participation in NSLVE is nonpartisan, easy, and protective of student privacy. To join NSLVE for the first time, or to reauthorize your campus you must submit a signed authorization form. More information on NSLVE, including FAQ, how the project works, and sample campus reports, can all be found on the **NSLVE website**.

VII NSLVE AS A RESOURCE FOR COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES CONT.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR UNDERSTANDING AND LEVERAGING YOUR NSLVE DATA

Election Imperatives

Based on NSLVE data from previous elections and on NSLVE's work with campuses to understand effective strategies, this report is centered on 10 major recommendations for colleges and universities looking to build community and capacity for civic learning and engagement.

The NSLVE Toolkit

A living set of resources, the IDHE Toolkit provides a variety of ways for institutions to use NSLVE data and other tools in tandem to promote campus climates for student political learning and engagement.

NSLVE Data Portal and Visualizations

For anyone interested in college student political engagement data, this area of the NSLVE website allows users to engage directly with NSLVE data. The tools on this page highlight everything from national comparisons and regional trends to more granular insights around particular elections.

VIII REPORTING

Reporting ensures that your coalition members have easy access to your campus action plans, NSLVE reports, and any other civic engagement data sets available to the institution. Best reporting practices include sharing both your action plan and your data (e.g., your campus's NSLVE report(s), student surveys, evaluations reports from tools mentioned on page 17-18) publicly and with all relevant on- and off-campus stakeholders. Sharing data can be done by posting these items to your institution's webpage, with a third party — like the **ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge** — as well as through campus voting coalition meetings, included in campus email communications or like newsletters, and publicly posting them on campus bulletin boards (both digital and/or physical). However, we encourage you to discuss with your campus all policies around publicly posting materials.

Sharing your action plan allows your coalition to increase accountability for their efforts and provides transparency to your campus community. It also allows interested members of your campus to find out about and subsequently join or support your efforts, amplifying your impact and reducing duplicative or siloed efforts.

As part of the reporting process, it is encouraged for campuses to be as detailed as possible and continually update their democratic engagement action plan to ensure the short- and long-term goals set forth in the plan are being met. If the goals change, these updates should be reflected in the plan in real-time and updated wherever your plan has been shared.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- How will this action plan be shared both internally and externally? Please state where the plan will be shared, keeping in mind to share the report with multiple stakeholders. If your institution is unable to share your plan externally, explicitly state so.
- a. Internal sharing within your campus community can look like sharing during departmental meetings, student organization gatherings, and with community partners.
- b. External sharing can look like allowing action planning programs with nonprofit partners (e.g., Andrew Goodman Foundation, ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, Voter Friendly Campus) to publish your action plan, posting the plan on your institution's website, social media, newsletters, on event platforms such as Engage, etc.
- 2. Will the data used to inform the plan, such as your institution's NSLVE report, be made public? If so, how? This could take place by posting the report on your institution's website and social media, sharing with on- and off-campus stakeholders, etc.
- 3. How will this plan be shared with your campus voting coalition and/or team to ensure it is used to execute student voting work on campus? Sharing this plan with all campus organizations and groups, community partners, and any others in your coalition allows everyone working on democratic engagement to have access to data and reporting to be able to plan and strategize programming.

IX EVALUATION

This section describes how the nonpartisan democratic action plan and its impact will be evaluated, how the institution will know if it is making progress, and when its goals have been reached. Included in this section should be what information (data) will be collected, who will collect the data, as well as how it will be collected, analyzed, and used for improvement. Evaluating the work should be a continual process, so the action plan can be adjusted to reach the institution's goals. Evaluation should not be limited to using data from NSLVE, though it is a vital resource in measuring student voter behavior for the campus.

Additional evaluation tools include tracking attendance at events, tracking open and click-through rates of campus-wide civic engagement emails, monitoring reach of social media campaigns, campus-created surveys, and Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE), National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), and Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE) data. For additional assessment tools to utilize for your evaluation refer to: <u>compact.org/resources/</u> <u>institutional-assessment</u>. Informal and formal evaluation should always be a part of the work of your coalition.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the purpose of the evaluation?
- 2. What does the institution want to know and be able to do with the information gathered?
- **3.** Who is the audience for the evaluation?
- 4. Who will carry out the evaluation? Is there an Institutional Research office representative involved? Faculty who are already studying related research questions? Student Affairs educators carrying out programmatic and long-term learning assessments?
- 5. When will the evaluation be carried out and completed?

- 6. What impact is already being measured for other related initiatives, like the Carnegie Foundation's Classification for Community Engagement?
- 7. What information (data, evidence) must be collected and how will it be collected? What are the performance measures and indicators of success? Make sure this data goes beyond NSLVE and may include measures like attendance, open rates, and social media metrics.
- 8. How will information (data, evidence) be analyzed?
- **a.** How will the results of the evaluation be shared?
- b. How will the success of diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts within the plan be evaluated, beyond NSLVE race/ethnicity breakdown information?*

*Campuses are encouraged to follow their local and state regulations. Campus action plan scores based on the corresponding Strengthening American Democracy Rubric will not be impacted negatively for campuses abiding by their local regulations.

IX EVALUATION CONT.

GUIDING QUESTIONS CONT.

- **9.** Will efforts to evaluate be limited to one person/one area of your campus or be part of a larger campus effort?
- **10.** What are your institution's metrics for success? Share what worked, what didn't, why, and how things will be altered for future action plans.
- **11.** What progress has been made toward each short- and long-term goal?
- **12.** Were efforts utilized to advance or implement the *Ask Every Student* framework?
- a. Integrating voter registration or GOTV (mail-in ballots, early voting, voter ID asks) into existing processes
- **b.** Executing individualized voter registration and democratic engagement tactics
- **C.** Institutionalizing tactics to be a sustainable part of campus culture?
- 13. If able, were efforts made to advance diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion priorities on campus? Did efforts allow for a sense of belonging and purpose for all institutional stakeholders?*

- 14. Which efforts were most successful in contributing to shifts in NSLVE and other data?
- a. What could be done to improve upon data metrics? For instance, if there was a big voter registration push, but voter registration data in NSLVE didn't change much, how can your instituiton's voting coalition improve on that?
- **15.** What are your key performance indicators, and did you satisfy expectations?
- 16. Was campus administration supportive of civic learning and democratic engagement efforts? What can be done to get university officials to sign the <u>ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full</u> <u>Student Voter Participation</u>?
- **17.** How can student research projects support evaluation measures?
- **18.** What resources do you need next year to advance civic engagement and reach long-term goals?
- **19.** What are the next steps for how evaluation information will be shared?

SELF-ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

To assist campus stakeholders with self-evaluating their institution's democratic engagement work, this rubric was developed to supplement the publication, Strengthening American Democracy: A Guide for Developing an Action Plan to Increase Civic Learning, Political Engagement, and Voting Rates among College Students (Vol. 5).

It is intended to help colleges and universities develop and evaluate their institutional democratic engagement action plans. Action plans are the institution's roadmap to documenting specific strategies for starting new programs and initiatives, or improving existing ones to improve civic learning, political engagement, and voting on their campus.

Language in the rubric can and should be adapted to the language of the individual campus when necessary.

DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT = CIVIC LEARNING + POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT + STUDENT VOTER PARTICIPATION

This rubric was developed to supplement the publication, *Strengthening American Democracy:* A Guide for Developing an Action Plan to Increase Civic Learning, Political Engagement, and Voter Participation Among College Students (5th Ed.).

Language in the rubric can and should be adapted to fit the context of an individual campus.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT	is any act intended to improve or influence a community through deliberation, collaboration, and reciprocal relationships and community-building.				
CIVIC LEARNING	is promoting the education of students for engaged citizenship through democratic participation in their communities, respect and appreciation of diversity, applied learning, and social responsibility.				
CURRICULUM	is an academic course of study; the knowledge students are expected to learn in the classroom.				
DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT	is the nonpartisan process of being engaged in advancing democracy through political institutions, organizations, and activities. Examples of democratic engagement include voting, contacting elected officials, being active in political organizations, debating issues, supporting causes, and participating in rallies.				
DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION	is civic engagement that involves democratic processes (e.g., when an organization puts a matter to a vote and there is individual participation).				
FULL PARTICIPATION	occurs when all students are asked to participate in the democratic process.				
INSTITUTIONALIZATION	is the process of integrating nonpartisan civic engagement and education into an institution's existing operations and culture in a sustainable way. This work happens not just in federal election years, but all years, and lasts long after any one person or team's time on campus.				
NATIONAL STUDY OF LEARNING, VOTING, AND ENGAGEMENT (NSLVE)	offers colleges and universities an opportunity to learn their student registration and voting rates and, for interested campuses, a closer examination of their campus climate for political learning and engagement and correlations between specific student learning experiences and voting.				
POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT OR POLITICAL PARTICIPATION	is civic engagement that emphasizes governmental institutions and/or power (e.g., voting in a local, state, or federal election). Participating in the political process also occurs by making one's own opinions and beliefs known outside of the electoral process (e.g., protesting, campaigning, performing jury duty, running for office, community organizing).				
<u>S.M.A.R.T.I.E.</u>	is an acronym used to guide goal-setting: Specific, Measurable, Ambitious, Realistic, Time-bound, Inclusive, and Equitable.				
VOTER REGISTRATION	is the process of successfully completing the application to be able to cast a ballot in an election.				
VOTER EDUCATION	is the curricular and co-curricular activities offered to students and designed to facilitate civic learning, political engagement, and increase participation in elections.				
VOTER MOBILIZATION	is the act of implementing tactics to encourage potential voters to follow through with becoming voters.				

DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN RUBRIC

	4 ESTABLISHED	3 PROGRESSING	2 I EMERGING	1 I UNDEVELOPED
Executive Summary Overview of the action plan explains: 1) Who developed it 2) The purpose of the plan 3) Where the plan will be implemented 4) The goal(s) of the plan 5) The intended duration of the plan 6) How the plan will be implemented.	Overview of the action plan includes responses to all 6 of the suggested guiding questions.	Overview of the action plan includes responses to 4-5 of the suggested guiding questions.	Overview of the action plan includes responses to 1-3 of the suggested guiding questions.	Overview of action plan is not included.
Leadership Description, including names and titles, of the leadership coalition responsible for improving democratic engagement. 5 categories of participation are encouraged: 1) students 2) faculty 3) student affairs 4) community/ national organizations 5) local elections office coordination.	A leadership team of all relevant stakeholders (across 5 categories) exists. The team includes academic affairs, student affairs, and students; as well as community partners and/or the local election office. The team includes diverse and marginalized communities.	A leadership team with many relevant stakeholders (across 3-4 categories) exists AND an effort is made to include diverse and marginalized communities.	A leadership team with a few relevant stakeholders (across 1-2 categories) exists, OR is in the process of being formed.	A leadership team has not yet been formed AND plans to develop one are not specified.
Commitment Description of institutional commitment to improving democratic engagement.	According to the plan, institutional commitment is visible and widely communicated - internally and externally. It is woven into the culture of the institution and is clearly reflected in the institution's mission, learning outcomes, curriculum, and co-curriculum.	According to the plan, institutional commitment is explicit, but is marginal - it is not woven into the culture of the institution, and appears in silos.	Institutional commitment is implied in the plan, but it is not explicitly described.	Institutional commitment is not apparent in the action plan.
Landscape Analysis of student data, campus climate, and current institutional efforts for improving democratic engagement.	The plan communicates a comprehensive understanding of its students, campus efforts, and climate; AND is using this information to inform its strategy.	The plan communicates an understanding of either its students, campus efforts, and/or climate; and may be using this information to inform its strategy.	The plan communicates that a landscape analysis is being developed.	The plan does not communicate that a landscape analysis exists or is being developed.
Goals Description of institutional short- term (e.g., by next election) and long-term (e.g., in next decade or two election cycles) desired democratic engagement results.	Short-term and long-term democratic engagement goals are described. Goals are also S.M.A.R.T.I.E., Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timebound, Inclusive, and Equitable.	Short-term AND long-term democratic engagement goals are described.	Only short-term OR long-term democratic engagement goals are described.	Neither short-term nor long-term democratic engagement goals are described.
National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) Free report providing campuses with their actual student registration and voting rates.	Summary AND detailed (e.g., demographic) NSLVE data are described and specific goals based on these data are set.	Either summary OR detailed (e.g., demographic) NSLVE data are described and general voting goals are set.	Participation in NSLVE is mentioned.	Participation in NSLVE is not mentioned.
Strategy Description of institutional efforts to reach desired democratic engagement results.	Strategy includes short-term tactics and long-term strategies. Tactics include a description of multiple voter registration, voter education, and voter turnout activities. Long-term strategies seek to make civic learning and democratic engagement an established part of the institution's curriculum and co-curriculum and go beyond the election.	Strategy includes short- term tactics. Tactics include a description of voter registration, voter education, and voter engagement activities. Activities occur inside the classroom, but are not described as a systemic part of the curriculum or defined as long-term strategies.	Strategy includes short- term tactics. Tactics include description of voter registration, voter education, and/or voter engagement activities, but not all three. Activities predominantly occur outside the classroom. Long-term strategies are not described.	Institutional efforts to reach desired results in terms of voter registration, voter education, and voter engagement are not described.
Reporting Descriptions of institutional efforts to make action plans; data such as survey results, event attendance, and strategic evaluation metrics; and NSLVE reports public.	Action plan, data, and NSLVE reports are shared on campus AND are publicly available.	Two or more of the action plan, data, and NSLVE reports are shared on campus and/or publicly.	One or more of the action plan, data, and NSLVE reports is available either on campus or publicly, OR a plan to do so is being developed.	Institutional efforts to share plans, data, and NSLVE reports or to make them public are not described.
Evaluation Description of institutional efforts to evaluate the action plan, implementation, efforts, and results.	The evaluation strategy describes how and what information will be collected and analyzed by the institution and campus voting coalition as well as how the results will be used to make improvements. Includes more than just looking at NSLVE data. Evaluation happens before, during, and after plan implementation. Evaluation strategy crosses several	The evaluation strategy describes how and what information will be collected and analyzed by the institution and campus voting coalition. Includes more than just looking at NSLVE data. Evaluation happens during and after plan implementation. Evaluation strategy crosses 1 category	The evaluation strategy describes what information will be collected by the institution and campus voting coalition. Evaluation mostly consists of NSLVE breakdown data. Evaluation is limited to post-election information.	Institutional efforts to evaluate the action plan, implementation, efforts, and results are not described.
	categories of participation from the Leadership Section.	of participation from the Leadership Section.		31

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS



ALL IN CAMPUS DEMOCRACY CHALLENGE

allinchallenge.org

ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge empowers colleges and universities to achieve excellence in nonpartisan student civic engagement. Through an intentionally-designed program that provides structure, support, and recognition, ALL IN works to improve civic learning, voting participation and ongoing engagement in our democracy on more than 1,000 campuses nationwide. ALL IN believes higher education should play a role in developing an active and informed citizenry by educating students, motivating them to engage in American democracy, and instilling the value of lifelong participation.



CAMPUS VOTE PROJECT

campusvoteproject.org

Fair Elections Center's Campus Vote Project works with universities, community colleges, faculty, students, and election officials to reduce barriers to student voting and helps campuses institutionalize reforms that empower students with the information they need to register and vote. Campus Vote Project runs the Voter Friendly Campus program with NASPA.

DEMOCRACY WORKS

democracy.works



Democracy Works is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization helping America vote by providing reliable, useful voting guidance through the sites, apps, and groups they trust. A leading provider of election and voting guidance data, Democracy Works partners with election officials, leading tech platforms and world-class partners to drive voter access and participation. It has supported hundreds of colleges and universities with its programming and resources. Democracy Works tools include TurboVote, Voting Information Project, the Democracy Works API, and Ballot Scout. Democracy Works also co-founded and leads the Civic Alliance.



STUDENTS LEARN STUDENTS VOTE (SLSV) COALITION

slsvcoalition.org

The Students Learn Students Vote (SLSV) Coalition is the national hub and largest nonpartisan network in the United States dedicated to increasing college student voter participation. The SLSV Coalition convenes and connects campuses, nonprofit partners, students, and philanthropic leaders with each other, and with resources and programming towards achieving the vision of ensuring that every student has easy and equal access to participate in every election. It uses data, relationships, celebration, and easy-to-follow planning structures, to help campus and local leaders register and turn out more student voters every year.

STUDENT PIRGS

studentpirgs.org

Student PIRGS Students have the power to shape the future we will inherit. We work with professional staff at colleges and universities to make sure our peers have the skills, opportunities and training they need to create a better, more sustainable future for all of us. Our chapters on 35 campuses provide the training, professional support and resources students need to tackle climate change, protect public health, revitalize our democracy, feed the hungry, and more. For over 40 years, we've helped students to get organized, mobilized, and energized so they can continue to be on the cutting edge of positive change.



ANDREW GOODMAN

FOUNDATION



THE ANDREW GOODMAN FOUNDATION

The Andrew Goodman Foundation's mission is to make young voices and votes a powerful force in democracy by training the next generation of leaders, engaging young voters, and challenging restrictive voter suppression laws. The organization is named after Andrew Goodman, a Freedom Summer volunteer and champion of equality and voting rights who was murdered, alongside James Earl Chaney and Michael Schwerner, by the KKK in 1964 while registering Black Americans to vote in Mississippi.

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