



**Bowling Green State University**  
**Voter and Civic Engagement Action Plan**  
**2016 – 2017**

*"Democracy needs to be born anew every generation, and education is the midwife" (Dewey 2008, 139).*

*"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter"*  
*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

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## Committee Members (invitations pending)

- Meg Burrell – Andrew Goodman Foundation Vote Everywhere Ambassador Team Leader
  - Phil Rich – Andrew Goodman Foundation Vote Everywhere Ambassador
  - John Ryan – Campus Election Engagement Project Ohio Fellow
  - Amanda Dortch – President, Undergraduate Student Government
  - Amira Hassnaoui – President, Graduate Student Senate (confirmation pending)
  - Jeremy Joseph - Chair, Administrative Staff Council
  - Kathleen Newman - Classified Staff Council
  - Paul Valdez – Associate Director, Center for Community and Civic Engagement
  - Jodi Webb – Dean of Students, Division of Student Affairs
  - Tim Shaal – Senior Associate Director, Office of Residence Life
  - Russell Mills – Associate Professor, Political Science and Faculty Representative
- (Community representatives may be added as ad hoc members at the discretions of the committee, i.e. League of Women Voters)

## Background

Bowling Green State University “provides educational experiences inside and outside the classroom that enhance the lives of students, faculty and staff. Students are prepared for lifelong career growth, lives of engaged citizenship and leadership in a global society” <http://www.bgsu.edu/about/mission.html>  
Our University Learning Outcomes emphasize Personal and Social Responsibility and Engaging Others in Action – Participating, Leading.

In the area of Civic Engagement, BGSU is aligned with the national imperatives expressed in *A Crucible Moment: College Learning and Democracy’s Future* (2012) <https://www.aacu.org/crucible>, a report by The National Task Force on Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement. *A Crucible Moment* was prepared at the invitation of the U.S. Department of Education under the leadership of the Global Perspective Institute, Inc. (GPI) and AAC&U. *A Crucible Moment* offers a “Framework for Twenty-First Century Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement” and was a foundational document guiding the creation of the new Center for Community & Civic Engagement at BGSU in January 2016. The report challenges colleges and universities to focus on ensuring that students develop knowledge, skills, values, and experiences of collective action by “constructing environments where education for democracy and civic responsibility is pervasive, not partial; central, not peripheral” (p. 2), and that universities serve “as one of the defining sites for learning and practicing democratic and civic responsibilities” (p.2). In terms of Collective Action the report highlights an emphasis on “Navigation of political systems and processes, both formal and informal” as a core area for civic learning.

At BGSU, our Voter & Civic Engagement Plan focuses on constructing a campus environment where students can both learn about and engage with voter and electoral engagement as a cornerstone of a democratic society, and use the focus on critical community issues brought into sharp focus during local, state, and national election cycles, to infuse our campus community with educational experiences inside and outside the classroom. In these settings students have the opportunity for civic learning, growth, and leadership development related to a variety of civic roles as citizens, voters, activists, researchers, public policy advocates, organizers, and change makers. In this regard robust voter and electoral engagement is one indicator of a community engaged campus as defined by the Carnegie Foundation and other national higher education organization.

In 2012, the Office of Service-Learning, now the Center for Community and Civic Engagement (CCCE), assumed a lead role on campus to spearhead voter engagement efforts as part of their role in supporting the development of a civically engaged campus. OSL (now CCCE) organized a campus committee to address voter engagement capacity and mobilization based on ongoing partnerships with colleagues in Student Affairs, Residence Life, and other academic programs.

Since 2012, BGSU has been involved with the national Campus Election Engagement Project through multiple grants to support voter and civic engagement. Additionally, in 2012 BGSU signed on for the first time to the National Study on Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) coordinated by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) operated out of Tufts University. In 2015, BGSU expanded capacity for this work by partnering with the Andrew Goodman Foundation to host two student Vote Everywhere Ambassadors who helped launch the BGSU Votes initiative during the 2015-2016 academic year.

The Center for Community and Civic Engagement at BGSU is focused on student civic learning, and as such continues to build our campus capacity for voter and democratic engagement utilizing national, state, and local resources. With limited capacity the CCCE has built a foundation for this important area of community and civic engagement. However, more work is needed to increase the level of civic learning and democratic engagement at BGSU, and one indicator of our campus civic health is the number of students registered to vote, student voting rates, and education about issues.

## 2016-2017 Strategic Goals

### Summary of Goals

**Primary Goal:** BGSU commits to create a campus environment that prioritizes voter engagement, education on local, state, and national issues, and equips students to be engaged citizens and leaders in a global society.

#### Strategic Goals:

- Participate in the All IN Campus Democracy Challenge in the 2016-2017 academic year
  - Convene a campus-wide committee to set goals and develop an action plan.
  - Enroll in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (enrolled since 2012).
  - Implement campus action plan leveraging existing programs, develop new programs, and report successes.
  - Aim for a student voter participation rate of 60-69%, to earn a silver recognition level from the All In Campus Democracy Challenge. (See most recent BGSU data in section on NSLVE)
- Continue to participate in the National Study on Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE).
  - Work with representatives from NSLVE to reach out to the Wood County Board of Elections to ensure voting method data is provided for the 2016 General Election to be included in the NSLVE.
- AGF Vote Everywhere Ambassadors will support BGSU student civic engagement and learning through voter engagement and democratic engagement during the 2016-2017 academic year.

- Continue to utilize resources, grants, and capacity building opportunities offered by Campus Election Engagement Project.
- Distribute BGSU Policy Handbook for Voter Engagement to all student organizations and students.
- Ensure the Residence Life letter sent to on campus students serves as a valid voter identification document for on-campus students.
- Partner with existing national and local events to register as many BGSU students, faculty, and staff as possible.
- Continue to provide students, faculty, and staff with a neutral, nonpartisan location on campus to register to vote and receive information about voting.
- Provide updated voting information on the BGSU Votes webpage ([www.bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://www.bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes)) for the variety of student populations at BGSU including Ohio students, out of state students, military students, overseas students, students with disabilities, and students taking classes and/or living on campus at both our campus locations (Bowling Green & Firelands)s
- Collaborate with various units and organizations to host Presidential Debate Watch Parties.
- Distribute as many issue briefs and sample ballots as possible for the November 2016 election.
- Create and distribute Residence Hall Bulletin Boards for BGSU Resident Assistants for placement in all BGSU residence halls.

## Capacity Building

### All In Campus Democracy Challenge

The [All In Campus Democracy Challenge](#) is a national initiative for campuses to be recognized for their commitment to improving democratic engagement, increasing student voter participation rates, and graduating students with a lifelong commitment to being informed and active citizens.

BGSU signed on to the Challenge in August of 2016 to further communicate our commitment to further voter participation, democratic engagement, and developing lifelong engaged citizens.



**Strategic goal** – Participate in the All IN Campus Democracy Challenge in the 2016-2017 academic year.

#### Action Items

- Convene a campus-wide committee to set goals and develop an action plan.
- Enroll in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (enrolled since 2012).
- Implement campus action plan leveraging existing programs, develop new programs, and report successes.
- Student voter participation rate of 60-69%, to earn at least a silver recognition level from the All In Campus Democracy Challenge. (See most recent BGSU data in section on NCLVE)

## National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)

The [NSLVE](#) offers colleges and universities an opportunity to learn about 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. The study provides reports with information such as registration rates, voting rates, voting method, field of study, education level (undergraduate, graduate, unknown), age group, gender, and race/ethnicity. BGSU has been in this study since 2012 and has received reports for the 2012 and 2014 general election cycles (See Appendix A for the full report). The 2012 Presidential Election voting rate for BGSU was 42.8% and the 2014 Midterm Election voting rate was 11.9%. For both registration and voting participation we are below average compared to other Carnegie classified institutions (See Figure 1).

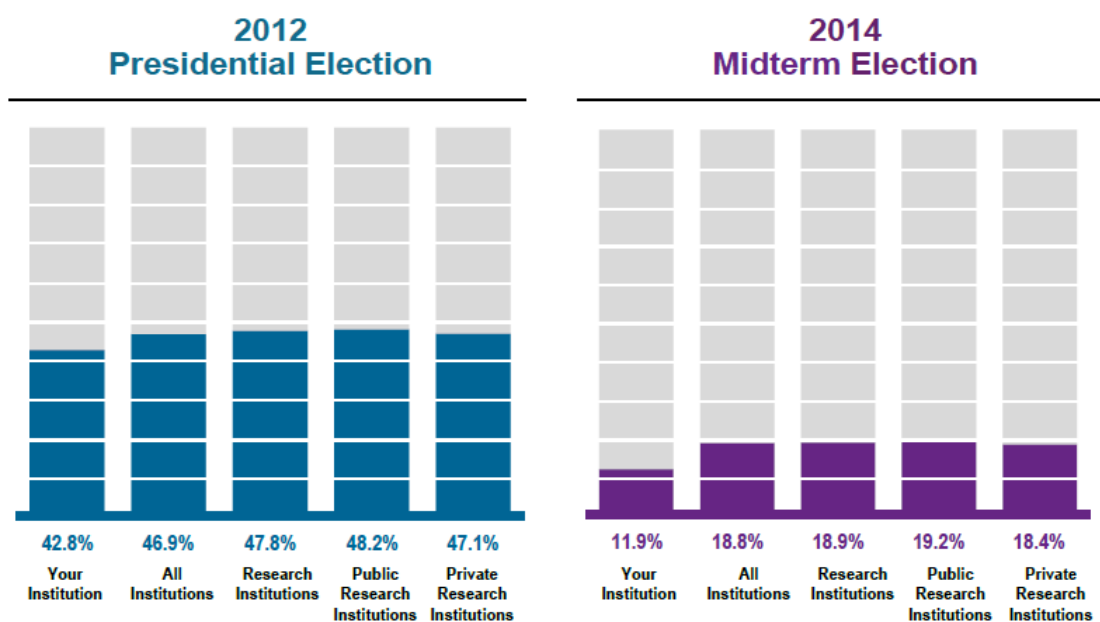


Figure 1: Campus Voting Rate Compared by Carnegie Classification

**Strategic goal** – Continue to participate in the NSLVE.

### Action Items

- Work with representatives from NSLVE to reach out to the Wood County Board of Elections to ensure voting method data is provided for the 2016 General Election to be included in the NSLVE.



## Andrew Goodman Foundation (AGF) Vote Everywhere Ambassadors

In 2015 BGSU partnered with the Andrew Goodman Foundation, a national nonpartisan civic engagement organization, to host two [Vote Everywhere Ambassadors](#) at BGSU to build strategic organizing skills while advocating for the campus community's voting and civic rights. Vote Everywhere Ambassadors receive training on leadership, voter engagement, community-organizing and campaigning. To support their work Ambassadors receive a stipend (\$1,000 for the academic year), activities budget (\$500 per ambassador for the academic year), and ongoing mentorship via the AGF's network of social change leaders. They work with an identified Campus Champion, selected by the host institution, to provide guidance and support of the Ambassadors' work.



The Campus Champion at BGSU is Paul Valdez, Associate Director in the Center for Community and Civic Engagement. The 2016-2017 Vote Everywhere Ambassadors are Junior Meg Burrell and Junior Phil Rich. Meg is going into her second year as an Ambassador, and will take on the additional responsibility of being the Lead Ambassador to train Phil and volunteers to assemble a voter engagement student team. In 2015-2016 AGF Ambassadors registered over 300 students to vote, delivered multiple student organization voter information sessions, and co-coordinated a successful Mayoral Debate attended by 120 students, staff, faculty members and community members.

**Strategic goal** – AGF Vote Everywhere Ambassadors will support BGSU student civic engagement and learning through voter engagement and democratic engagement during the 2016-2017 academic year.

### Action Items

- Conduct trainings and registration drives to register at least 400 student voters by registration deadline of October 11, 2016.
- Recruit, select and train a new AGF Ambassador.
- Build a solid foundation for AGF Ambassador role at BGSU in conjunction with the BGSU Votes initiative coordinated out of the Center for Community and Civic Engagement.

## Campus Election Engagement Project (CEEP)

Founded in 2008 by Soul of a Citizen author Paul Loeb, the Campus Election Engagement Project is a national nonpartisan project that helps administrators, faculty, staff, and student leaders at America's colleges and universities mobilize their 20 million students to register, volunteer in campaigns, educate themselves, and turn out at the polls. Since 2012 BGSU has been a CEEP campus utilizing resources such as grants, suggested readings, election engagement resources, partner connections, trainings and more. CEEP has been instrumental in establishing a strong foundation for this work at BGSU. New for 2016 CEEP is offering funding to support one (1) CEEP Ohio Fellow at BGSU to lead campus voter registration, education, and engagement up to the November General election. Fellows will develop and implement a plan on their campus pertaining to how faculty, administrators, staff, and students can help educate and involve students in the election process.



**Strategic goal** – Continue to utilize resources, grants, and capacity building offered by CEEP.

### Action Items

- Work with CEEP to recruit, select, and supervise a CEEP Ohio Fellow for the November 2016 General Election.
- Integrate this Fellow into the existing BGSU voter engagement initiatives working alongside the Center for Community and Civic Engagement and the Andrew Goodman Foundation Vote Everywhere Ambassadors.

### Policy Handbook for Voter Engagement

In the summer of 2015 a BGSU graduate student intern with the Center for Community and Civic Engagement created a campus policy handbook for voter engagement (See Appendix B). This document highlights the various campus policies that relate to voter engagement including, but not limited to: free speech areas, political campaigning, residence hall policies for canvassing and reservations, political speakers, advertisement, and event management. Additionally, this document reiterates our campus values of respect, inclusion, collaboration and community, intellectual and personal growth, innovation and entrepreneurship, and excellence.

**Strategic goal** - Distribute this document to all student organizations and students using the following methods of delivery:

### Action Items

- Post 2 announcements about the resource on the OrgSync Portal.
- Post 6 announcements about the resource between August 22, 2016 and November 8, 2016 on the Campus Update.
- Distribute copies of the handbook at major events such as Campus Fest, Expand Your Horizons Fair, National Voter Registration Day to student organizations and student leaders.

### On Campus Verification of Residency Letter

Each year the Office of Residence Life sends a proof of residency email (See Appendix C) to all on campus student residents. The email includes the student's on campus address and key information about voter registration and voting in Ohio. The letter serves as a proof of residency as compliant with the state law for voter identification requirements for in person voting on election day under the item "An original or copy of a current other government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that shows the voter's name and present address"

([www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/elections/voters/faq/id.aspx](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/elections/voters/faq/id.aspx))

**Strategic goal** – Ensure this letter serves as a valid voter identification document for students.

### Action Items

- Work with the Office of Residence Life, Wood County Board of Elections and the BGSU General Counsel to ensure the document is accepted on Election Day by on campus polling location poll workers.



## Student Voter Registration Efforts

As a public institution of higher education BGSU is required by law to distribute voter registration forms to their students. Section 487(a)(23) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 references the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) and requires institutions of higher education to distribute voter registration forms to their students. See this letter from the Department of Education on July 1st, 2013 for more information, [www.ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/GEN1317.html](http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/GEN1317.html). Increasingly nationally and internationally Voter Registration and citizen education efforts are being managed in online environments, and these approaches have proved to be particularly effective with young adults and college students, and offer efficient tools for increasing level of voter and civic participation.

**Strategic goal** – Partner with existing national and local events to register as many BGSU students, faculty, and staff as possible.

- Track number of student voter registrations and handouts distributed during the year.

### *BGSU Votes Webpage*

Features information about voter registration, deadlines, updating addresses, verifying registrations, absentee ballot applications, upcoming events, and how to get informed.  
[www.bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://www.bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes)

### *Student Orientation and Registration (SOAR)*

For the past two years BGSU Votes has had a presence at SOAR and educated incoming students about voting. In 2016, incoming students were signed up for the Community Engagement Update coordinated by the Center for Community and Civic Engagement and will receive regular communication with reminders about voting and civic engagement.

### *Campus Fest*

This major student focused event takes place on September 1, 2016 from 11 am – 3 pm in the Student Union Oval and Carillon Quadrangle between the Education Building and the Business Administration Building. BGSU Votes will be present with a table registering students to vote and handing out voter education information. In 2015, 60 students were registered at this event and 50 BGSU Policy Handbooks for Voter Engagement were distributed to student organizations.

### *Expand Your Horizons Fair*

This event is a major experiential learning event taking place on September 14, 2016 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Ballroom from 9:30am – 2:30 pm. BGSU Votes will be present with a booth to registering students to vote and handing out voter education information.

### *Constitution Day*

Each year the Office of Campus Activities coordinates Constitution Day on September 16, 2016, which was enacted in 2004 as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, Public Law 108-447. The law requires that educational institutions receiving federal funding offer programming about the U.S. Constitution on this holiday. The goal of this requirement is to provide education concerning citizenship, civic duty, and the U.S. BGSU Votes will partner with this event to offer students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to register to vote.

### *National Voter Registration Day*

A National Event on September 27, 2016 volunteers, celebrities, and organizations from all over the country will participate in [National Voter Registration Day](#). BGSU Votes will be on campus throughout the day registering students, faculty and staff to vote and providing voter education materials.

### *Student Organization Meetings*

Throughout the academic year, BGSU Votes will be available for student organizations to provide a voter information workshop with information about voter registration and the democratic process.

### *Class Presentation Requests*

Throughout the academic year, BGSU Votes will be available to do in class presentations at the request of faculty members about the voting process.

## Targeted Voter Registration and Education

### *Overseas and Military Voters*

Overseas and deployed students at BGSU will receive communication from BGSU about their voting options. Voting information will be sent out to students studying overseas from the International Programs and Partnerships and deployed or deploying students will receive voting information from Nontraditional and Military Student Services in early September of 2016.

### *Voters with Disabilities*

Student voters with disabilities will receive communication from BGSU about their voting options. They will be directed to the Ohio Secretary of State elections and voting information for individuals with disabilities. This communication will be sent out by the BGSU Office of Disability Services.

## Neutral Voter Registration Location

As in years past, the Center for Community and Civic Engagement will serve as a neutral, nonpartisan voter registration and voter information location on campus. The CCCE is located in 301 Hayes Hall and students, faculty, and staff can visit the office to register to vote. Additionally, student organizations will also be provided with resources such as the BGSU Policy Handbook for Voter Engagement and the Ohio Secretary of State Voter Registration Instructions.

**Strategic goal** – Continue to provide students, faculty, and staff with a neutral, nonpartisan location on campus to register to vote and receive information about voting.

### Action Items

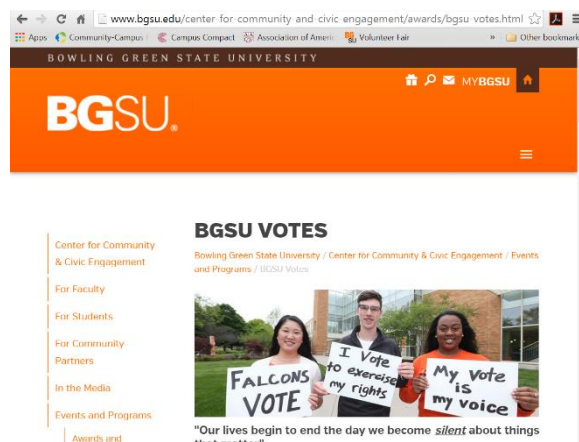
- Track the number of voter registrations completed at the CCCE.
- Track the number of voter education handouts given out at the CCCE.
- Distribute up to date voter engagement information to key areas on campus

## Education and Get Out the Vote

### BGSU Votes Website

[www.bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://www.bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes) will serve as the main BGSU website for voter information and will be updated regularly with information about voter registration, absentee voting, voting, getting informed, events, volunteering opportunities, as well as frequently asked questions.

**Strategic goal** – Provide updated voting information for the variety of student populations at BGSU including Ohio students, out of state students, military students, overseas students, and students taking classes at the Firelands campus.



### Action Items

- Promote volunteer opportunities on the website and reach out to more organizations to post volunteer opportunities.
- Promote events for students to get informed about voting.
- Provide resources such as the BGSU Policy Handbook on Voter Engagement, Ohio Secretary of State Voter Registration Instructions brochure, and hyperlinks to useful websites such as MyOhioVote.com (Ohio Secretary of State), U.S. Elections Directory, Vote411.org, and TurboVote.

### Debate Watch Parties

Presidential Debate Watch Parties are high profile, low cost events that can bring students, faculty, and staff together to participate in the democratic process. By adding deliberative dialogue opportunities at these debate watch parties, students, faculty, and staff will be more informed about policy issues and will be provided with the opportunity to develop civil dialogue skills.

**Strategic goal** – Utilize Presidential Debate Watch Parties as a venue for teaching civility in dialogue.

### Action Items

- Partner with the Department of Political Science to design, implement, and assess the deliberative dialogue method at three Presidential Debate Watch Parties in Fall 2016: September 26<sup>th</sup> 8-11 pm BTSU 201, October 19<sup>th</sup> 8-11 pm BTSU 308, and November 8<sup>th</sup> 6 pm – 12 am Olscamp 101. (\*October 9<sup>th</sup> debate is not listed because this is during BGSU's Fall Break).
- Promote the Presidential Debate Watch Parties broadly.

## Sample Ballots and Issue Briefs

As in years past, the Center for Community and Civic Engagement will develop and distribute sample ballots featuring the upcoming election issues and candidates for dissemination on campus. The documents and issue briefs will be nonpartisan and be limited to the verbatim issue/candidate language voters will be voting on.

**Strategic goal** – Distribute as many issue briefs and sample ballots as possible for the November 2016 election.

### Action Items

- Track document distribution on campus.
- Make issue briefs and sample ballots available on BGSU Votes website.
- Ensure all targeted student populations also receive sample ballots and issue briefs.

## Residence Hall Bulletin Boards

The Residence Halls at BGSU provide a highly visible location for information about voting and educate first-year students about voting. At BGSU there are 178 Resident Assistants in 10 housing locations on campus. Resident Assistants are a great campus partner for voter education.

**Strategic goal** – Create Residence Hall Bulletin Boards for BGSU Resident Assistants for placement in all BGSU residence halls (See Appendix D).

### Action Items

- Work with Marketing and Communications to develop content and graphics for bulletin boards.
- Distribute bulletin boards at the Residents Assistant Training on August 12, 2016.

## Appendix A – NSLVE Report for BGSU (2012/2014)

**CAMPUS REPORT**  
Student Voting  
Rates for  
Bowling Green State  
University-Main Campus  
003018.00

**WHAT'S INSIDE**

**About This Report**

**Your Students' Voting Rates**

**Rate Breakdown**

By Age Group

By Education Level

By Field of Study

By Voting Method

**How Your Institution's  
Numbers Compare**

# About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), housed at the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service, Tufts University. Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, more than 750 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012 and 2014 elections. Participating colleges and universities are located in 48 states and represent all Carnegie classifications as well as socially and economically diverse students. With others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of over 6.7 million college student records that is already serving as a foundation for innovative research on college student political learning and engagement in democracy.

## Looking Ahead

In response to our survey, many of you requested resources as well as stories about what other campuses are doing. Over the coming months, NSLVE will be releasing tools and resources that you and others can use to enhance political learning and engagement in democracy on your campus. Here is a sneak peek into some of this work.

- ❑ *Campus Discussion Guide*: A tool for conversations on your campus regarding how to use the NSLVE report to spark change.
- ❑ *National Data*: We'll be sharing data about the national landscape for college student voting.
- ❑ *Comparison Data*: We know campuses are interested in learning more about how their voting compares to other similar institutions. We'll be rolling out aggregate comparison data for groups of participating campuses.
- ❑ *Case Studies*: We've been on the road, visiting campuses with unpredicted, high voting rates. We will be sharing the findings from our studies of campus climates for student political learning and engagement in democracy.
- ❑ *Diversity & Democracy*: In December, in partnership with the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU), we will publish a special issue on college student political learning and engagement in democracy.

If you or someone else on your campus would like to receive more information about our research and resources, please [sign up here](#).

## About the Data

The voter registration and voting rates in this report reflect the percentage of your institution's students who were eligible to vote and who actually voted in the 2012 and 2014 elections. These data are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse ("Clearinghouse") and publicly available voting records collected by Catalist.

Using enrollment records submitted on a date closest to the election, we removed students under 18 on Election Day. We also deducted an estimated number of students identified by your institution as non-resident aliens. This is based on the percentage of non-resident aliens reported by your institution to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), and is more reliable than the demographic data campuses provide to the Clearinghouse at this time. Please note that students who blocked the use of their information under FERPA were also removed from the enrollment lists by the Clearinghouse.

When combining two datasets, matching errors can occur. That said, for each record, we receive a "confidence score." The average confidence score for the student records in our database is 96.6%. Nonetheless, some errors are still possible:

- On page three, we indicate the number of students who blocked their records from being used for any purpose, including research. If those students voted at a much lower or higher rate than your other students, it might affect the voting rate.
- Students not found in the voting database are considered non-voters, but we have no way to remove individual noncitizens (resident aliens and non-resident aliens). We use an estimate based on IPEDS data to account for your international students. We cannot adjust for undocumented students. This may result in your actual voting rate being higher than we report. To recalculate that percentage, see our [FAQ on campus reports](#).

## Reviewing the Data

Please use the following key to interpret the charts below:

- \* = number of students is less than 10
- = zero results in this field

For some colleges and universities, this report will contain some categories for which data is "unknown." These likely reflect the amount or quality of the data the institution provides, a problem that can be corrected by more comprehensive reporting to the Clearinghouse.



# Your Students' Voting and Registration Rates

2012 Voting Rate

**43%**

2014 Voting Rate

**12%**

## 2012 Presidential Election



**64.6%**

Registration  
Rate

**66.3%**

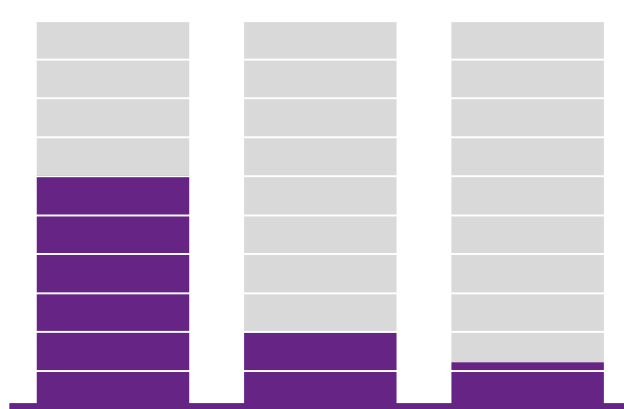
Rate of  
Registered  
Students  
who Voted

**42.8%**

Voting  
Rate

Total student enrollment	18,899
Ineligible to vote because too young	620
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	695
FERPA records blocked	11
Number of students who registered	11,355
Number of students who voted	7,525

## 2014 Midterm Election



**60.4%**

Registration  
Rate

**19.6%**

Rate of  
Registered  
Students  
who Voted

**11.9%**

Voting  
Rate

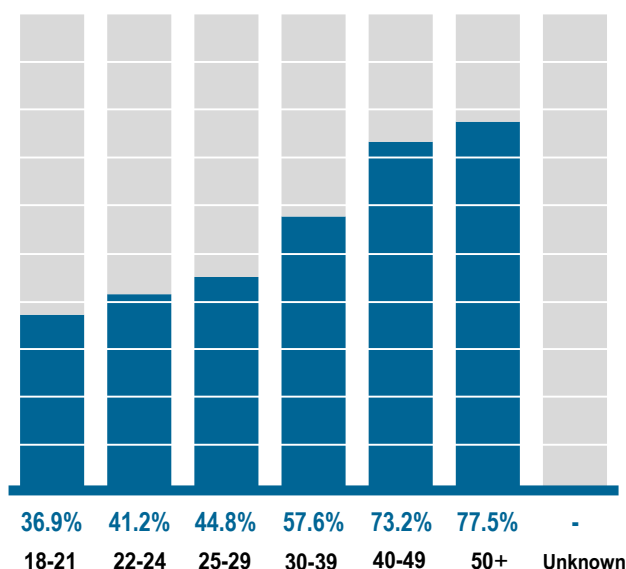
Total student enrollment	18,416
Ineligible to vote because too young	802
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	697
FERPA records blocked	*
Number of students who registered	10,220
Number of students who voted	2,006

# Your Students' Voting Rate Breakdown

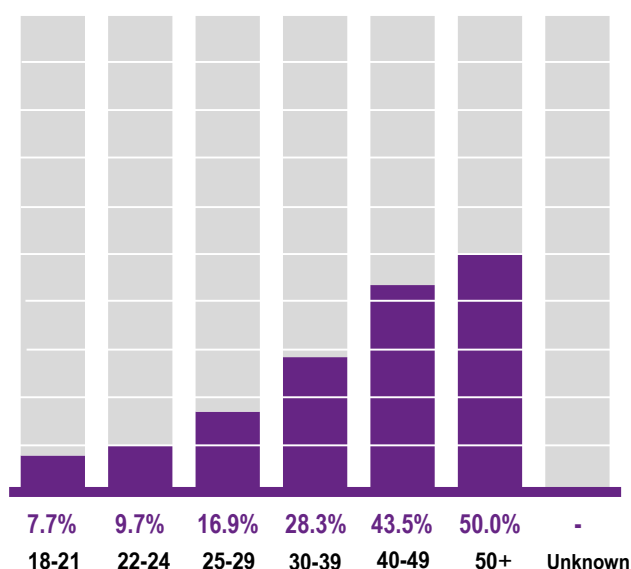
## BY AGE GROUP

Your students broken down by age at the time of the election. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens.

### 2012 Presidential Election



### 2014 Midterm Election



AGE GROUP	ENROLLED	VOTED
18-21	11,667	4,306
22-24	3,209	1,323
25-29	1,494	670
30-39	1,112	640
40-49	542	397
50+	244	189
Unknown	-	-

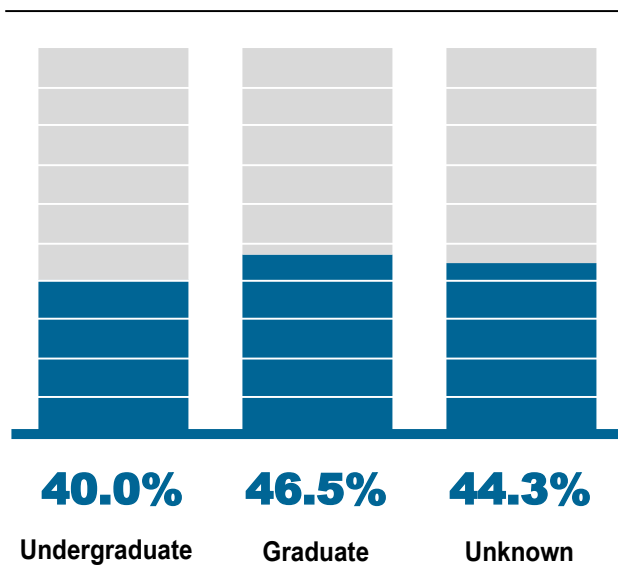
AGE GROUP	ENROLLED	VOTED
18-21	11,154	854
22-24	3,371	326
25-29	1,376	232
30-39	1,059	300
40-49	444	193
50+	202	101
Unknown	-	-

# Your Students' Voting Rate Breakdown

## BY EDUCATION LEVEL

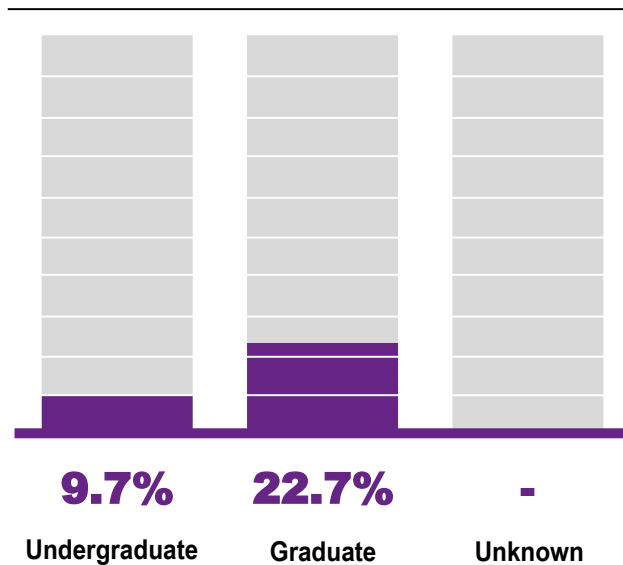
Your students broken down by undergraduate and graduate students. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens.

### 2012 Presidential Election



EDUCATION LEVEL	ENROLLED	VOTED
Undergraduate	14,076	5,625
Graduate	1,966	914
Unknown	2,226	986

### 2014 Midterm Election



EDUCATION LEVEL	ENROLLED	VOTED
Undergraduate	15,295	1,482
Graduate	2,309	524
Unknown	*	-

# Your Students' Voting Rate Breakdown

## BY FIELD OF STUDY

Your students broken down by field of study. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens.

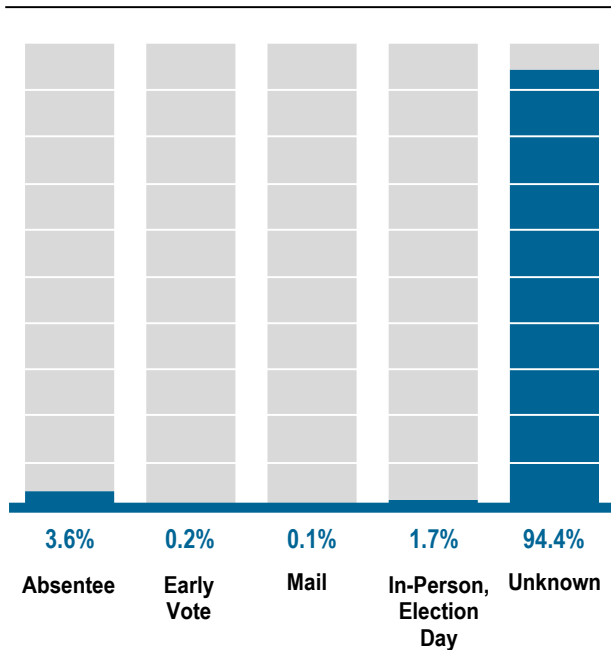
	2012 Presidential Election			2014 Midterm Election		
	Enrolled	Voted	Turnout	Enrolled	Voted	Turnout
Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	*	*	57.1%	813	65	8.0%
Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support	182	94	51.6%	2,148	223	10.4%
Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs	41	20	48.8%	445	33	7.4%
Computer and Information and Library Sciences	*	*	33.3%	378	28	7.4%
Education	417	199	47.7%	4,635	700	15.1%
Engineering	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health Professions and Related Sciences, Knowledge, and Skills	170	100	58.8%	1,610	133	8.3%
Humanities	122	50	41.0%	838	116	13.8%
Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies, and Humanities	96	47	49.0%	667	111	16.6%
Mathematics and Statistics	-	-	-	195	12	6.2%
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	20	10	50.0%	265	42	15.8%
Parks and Recreation	60	24	40.0%	785	46	5.9%
Physical Sciences	*	*	33.3%	412	35	8.5%
Professions	30	14	46.7%	488	51	10.5%
Psychology, Personal Awareness, and Self-Improvement	59	21	35.6%	609	55	9.0%
Social Sciences	60	27	45.0%	403	59	14.6%
Technologies/Technicians	-	-	-	584	53	9.1%
Trades	70	32	45.7%	849	106	12.5%
Visual and Performing Arts	134	51	38.1%	1,436	127	8.8%

# Your Students' Voting Rate Breakdown

## BY VOTING METHOD

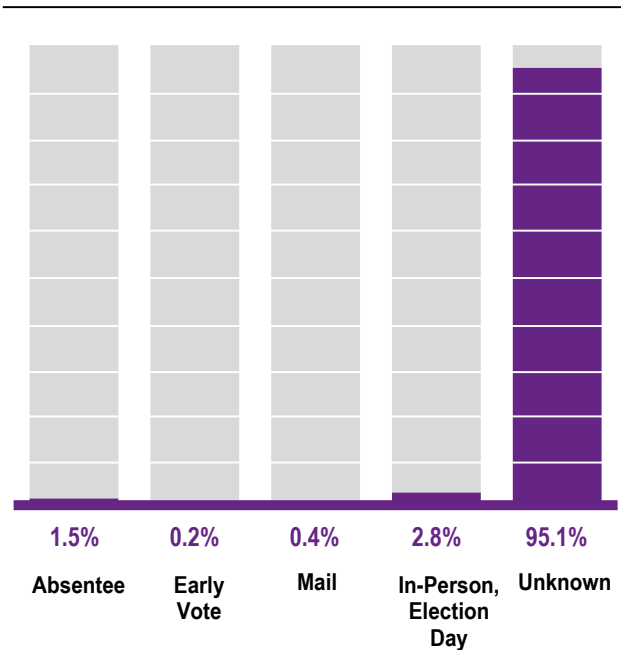
Your students broken down by voting method. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens. If your campus has a high percentage of "unknown" voting methods, it means that this information is not reported by local officials.

### 2012 Presidential Election



VOTING METHOD	ENROLLED	VOTED
Absentee	18,899	268
Early Vote	18,899	16
Mail	18,899	10
In-Person, Election Day	18,899	126
Unknown	18,899	7,105

### 2014 Midterm Election



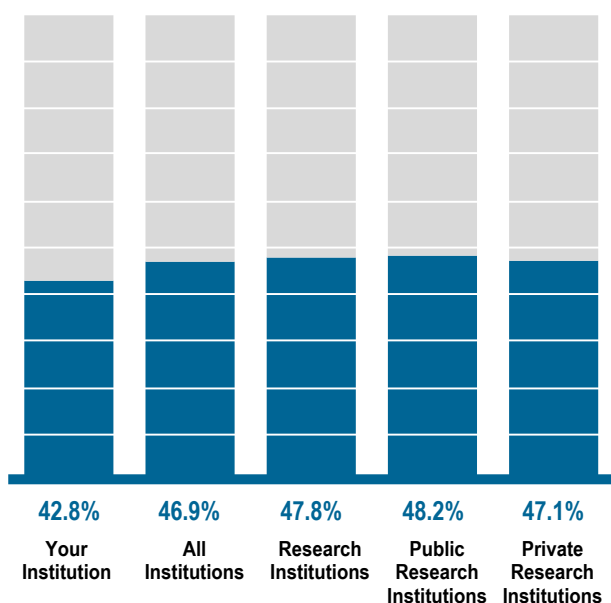
VOTING METHOD	ENROLLED	VOTED
Absentee	18,416	30
Early Vote	18,416	*
Mail	18,416	*
In-Person, Election Day	18,416	56
Unknown	18,416	1,908

# How Your Numbers Compare

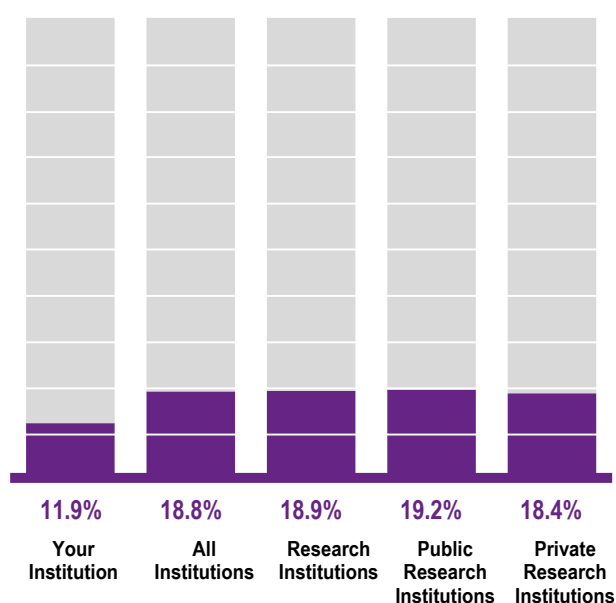
## BY CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION

See how your campus voting rate compares to others in your Carnegie classification. This comparison data allows your campus to understand your individual voting rates in the context of similar institutions. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens.

### 2012 Presidential Election



### 2014 Midterm Election



## Appendix B – BGSU Policy Handbook for Voter Engagement



## **A Guide to BGSU policies for Student Organizations and Outside Organizations (Last updated August 2016)**

This guide has been developed by the Center for Community and Civic Engagement to aid student and outside organizations to navigate BGSU policies related to voter registration and electoral engagement activities. The University core values are at the heart of our campus policies: **Respect, inclusion, collaboration and community, intellectual and personal growth, innovation and entrepreneurship, and excellence** are all values that should be central to your experience here. When engaging in the electoral process we expect these values to be manifest in your actions as an individual or as a student organization. If a student or student organization does not adhere to the outlined policies, the university will initiate a conduct review process to hold individuals responsible for their actions.

This guide offers a broad overview of various BGSU policy areas including:

- Fundraising, Soliciting, and Selling (Pg.2)
- Advertisement (Pg.2)
- Assembly (Pg.2)
- Event Management (Pg.2)
- Guest Speakers (Pg.2)
- Political Campaigning (Pg.3)
- Facility Reservations (Pg.3)
- Residence Hall Reservations (Pg. 4)
- Grounds Rental/Use (Pg.4)
- Speak Out Area (Pg.4)
- Amplification Equipment (Pg.5)
- Not In Our Town (pg.5)

This guide does not include all stipulations attached to every policy, as such, individuals and organizations are encouraged to follow the links for each policy to reference the specific wording and stipulations of each applicable policy to ensure they are following them properly.

BGSU Votes, the Center for Community and Civic Engagement, and their affiliates are not responsible for any actions of organization(s) or individual(s) who fail to comply with BGSU policies and procedures, and/or fail to familiarize themselves with the full details of each policy.

This is meant to be a helpful guide to BGSU policies and where to find them. We offer no guarantee that this is a comprehensive list.

BGSU Votes is a university backed, non-partisan initiative. We are committed to:

- Register students to vote at major campus events such as SOAR, Volunteer Fair, and more.
- Provide students a neutral place to register to vote and learn more about the voting process in the Center for Community and Civic Engagement (301 Hayes Hall).
- Train student organizations how to conduct voter registration booths.
- Connect students to volunteer opportunities related to the election.
- Our website [www.bgsu.edu/BGSUVotes](http://www.bgsu.edu/BGSUVotes) has the most up to date and accurate information.
- Engage the BGSU community in democratic dialogues around critical social issues.

## **RELEVANT VOTER ENGAGEMENT AND ELECTORAL ENGAGEMENT CAMPUS POLICIES**

### **Fundraising, Solicitations, and Sales**

Soliciting and selling of any product or promoting/canvassing/recruiting for organizations, teams, clubs, candidates, etc. is not allowed in the residence halls. While door-to-door voter registration is not allowed, an organization may seek the approval of the Director of Residence life to allow for registration efforts in the residence halls. For more information on this policy go to: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (<http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html>)

### **Advertisement**

Student organizations are free to post flyers, notices, posters etc. on kiosks, and general purpose bulletin boards. Non-University groups or individuals may only post on University kiosks. Members of the University community may also use traditional non-spray chalk on sidewalks, put up banners with permission of the Hall Director of each residence hall, and display yard signs with permission of the Dean of Students. No posting will be allowed anywhere else on campus. For more information on these policies go to: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (<http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html>).

Registered student organizations and University departments may post fliers/signs in residence halls with permission from the Office of Residence life, more information on this policy can be found here: [Residence Life Advertising Policy](http://www.bgsu.edu/residence-life/forms-and-resources/advertising-policy.html) (<http://www.bgsu.edu/residence-life/forms-and-resources/advertising-policy.html>)

Registered student organizations may also advertise on LCD Boards in the Residence Halls and in the Dining Halls. For more information on these policies follow the appropriate links: [University Dining LCD Board Display Policy](#) and [Residence Hall LCD Board Display Policy](#) (<https://www.bgsu.edu/content/dam/BGSU/residence-life/documents/digital-signage-policy.pdf>)

### **Assembly**

Student and outside organizations have the right to assemble and rally, march, etc. but before they do so they must fill out a grounds use request form for the area(s) they plan on assembling. See Grounds rental/Use Below. All organizations are responsible for making sure events do not interfere with the mission of BGSU. Organizations must ensure the event does not block entries, exits, walkways, roadways, or hinder the free flow of any sort of traffic. For more information on this policy go to: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (<http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html>).

### **Event Management**

Student organizations may sponsor and host events on the BGSU campus, outside organizations may hold events on the BGSU campus as long as they are sponsored by a University Department or registered student organization. All events must be registered with the Office of Campus Activities in 401 BTSU 419-372-2343, there are many stipulations regarding events (including security responsibilities) and organizations are encouraged to read and understand the full policy, found here: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (<http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html>).

### **Guest Speakers**

Registered student organizations and University departments are allowed to sponsor guest speakers. If an individual or organization outside of the University wishes to speak as a guest at BGSU they must have sponsorship from a registered student organization or University department. If the organization plans on using university facilities and services for the guest speaker(s) that organization must register the space with the BTSU Conference and Event Services Office in 231 BTSU at 419-372-9000. Guest speakers must also comply with the Political Campaigning Policy, listed below. For more specific stipulations and to view the policy please follow this link: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (<http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html>).

### **Political Campaigning**

All student candidates for GSS and USG must abide by the university regulations governing canvassing and voter registration they were given with their letter of authorization. All candidates for public office that wish to speak or campaign at BGSU must register with the Office of the Dean of Students prior to campaigning. All candidates for public office must comply with all university policies including but not limited to: advertising policies, space reservation policies, and residence hall policies. For more information on this policy please visit: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (<http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html>).

### **Space and Facilities Reservations Including Use of Campus Grounds**

Only registered student organizations and University departments may reserve/rent/use campus facilities. All requests for reservations must be made with the appropriate office and an authorized representative from your organization must sign or verbally communicate our request. The spaces currently available to rent are listed below, special stipulations may apply to different types of spaces so make sure to reference the Student Handbook. For more information on this policy please visit: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (<http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html>)

- Bowen-Thompson Student Union Contact: 231 Bowen-Thompson Student Union Administrative Office, 419-372-9000
- Academic Buildings Contact: 231 Bowen-Thompson Student Union Administrative Office, 419-372-9000
- Dining Centers Contact: University Dining Services catering/space arrangements manager, 419-372-6951
- Prout Chapel Contact: 231 Bowen-Thompson Student Union Administrative Office, 419-372-9000
- Eppler Hall Gymnasiums Contact: School of Human Movement, Sport & Leisure Studies, 119 Eppler Center, 419-372-7234
- Intercollegiate Athletics Facilities Doyt L. Perry Stadium, Anderson Arena, Whittaker Track, Steller Baseball Field, Cochrane Soccer Field, Keefe Tennis Courts, BGSU Softball Complex, and athletic practice fields. Contact: Facility Coordinator, Dept. of Athletics, 419-372-2401
- Kobacker Hall, Kennedy Green Room and Bryan Recital Hall Contact: Technical Director, Moore Musical Arts Center, 419-372-2181
- Mileti Alumni Center Contact: Director of Alumni Affairs, 419-372-2424
- Offenhauer Tower West, 11th Floor Contact: Offenhauer Towers front desk, 419-372-2898

## **Residence Hall Space Reservations**

In order to reserve a space for use in a residence hall an organization must be either a University-recognized student organization or a University office. No area in a residence hall is available for groups not affiliated with the university, if an organization is not University recognized they must seek approval from the Director of Residence Life to reserve space. These spaces are located in publicly accessible areas of the residence halls and areas located in secure residential corridors are not available for use by any organization. All organizations seeking to reserve a space in a residence hall must abide by all policies, terms and conditions, and stipulations regarding reservations. There are many stipulations regarding the rental/use of residence hall spaces and all organizations seeking to rent a residence hall space are encouraged to read the reservation policy in its entirety, located here: [Residence Hall Space Reservation Policies](https://www.bgsu.edu/residence-life/forms-and-resources/hall-space-reservations-terms.html) (https://www.bgsu.edu/residence-life/forms-and-resources/hall-space-reservations-terms.html). For a full list of the available spaces please go here: [List of Available Residence Hall Spaces](http://www.bgsu.edu/content/dam/BGSU/residence-life/documents/list-of-reservable-hall-spaces.pdf) (http://www.bgsu.edu/content/dam/BGSU/residence-life/documents/list-of-reservable-hall-spaces.pdf).

## **Grounds Rental/Use**

In order to use any grounds on campus your organization must file a ground use request form. These forms are initiated in 231 BTSU administrative office, 419-372-9000. Campus grounds located adjacent to residence halls or living units must be reserved through the Office of Residence Life by contacting the designated officials within the hall office. For more information on the stipulations in this policy with a list of contacts and to read it in full please visit here: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html)

## **Speak out Area**

The Speak Out area is located in the front of the BTSU, it is not reservable and is available at all times to everyone on a “first come/first served” basis. For more information on this policy please visit: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html).

## **Amplification equipment (Item E under Space and Facilities Reservations Including Campus Grounds)**

Amplification equipment is limited at BGSU and the use of an amplification device requires written approval be obtained in advance from the approving office or a designated representative. “Sound amplification equipment” means any electronically powered, operated or assisted device that amplifies sound. A sound amplification device includes, but is not limited to, any system of public address, bullhorns, boom box, music or voice amplifiers, megaphones, or any combination thereof. For more information and stipulations to this policy read the entire policy here: [Student Handbook](http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html) (http://www.bgsu.edu/student-handbook/policies-and-procedures.html).

## **Not In Our Town**

While the “Not in Our Town” movement is not a policy, it is still an important part of the BGSU culture and it is important for all organizations who wish to work on voter engagement at BGSU to understand. BGSU and the city of Bowling Green are committed to this movement, as such, when engaging students and the community with voting efforts it is important to keep this in mind and give mutual respect to everyone you and your organization encounters. If you or your organization wish to read and/or take the NIOT pledge, a copy can be found on the BGSU website by following this link: [Not In Our Town](http://www.bgsu.edu/not-in-our-town/take-the-pledge.html) (http://www.bgsu.edu/not-in-our-town/take-the-pledge.html)

## Appendix C – On Campus Verification of Voter Residency Email

Date

Name of Student

On Campus Address

Bowling Green State University

Bowling Green, Ohio 43403

Dear,

As Election Day approaches, we would like to share with you this important information about voting while you are a student living on campus at BGSU.

Please contact us with any questions at [reslife@bgsu.edu](mailto:reslife@bgsu.edu) or 419-372-2011.

Thank you,

Office of Residence Life

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## VOTER IDENTIFICATION

Ohio law requires every voter, upon appearing at the polling place to vote on Election Day, to announce his or her full name and current address and to provide proof of the voter's identity.

This e-mail serves as proof of your current address as recorded in Bowling Green State University's housing system.

Please print this email and take it with you to your polling location.

Your current address of record with Bowling Green State University as of the date of this letter is:

Name of Student

On Campus Room Number

On Campus Hall Name

Bowling Green State University

Bowling Green, Ohio 43403

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The following are also acceptable forms of identification:

- An unexpired Ohio driver's license or state identification card with present or former address so long as the voter's present residential address is printed in the official list of registered voters for that precinct;
- A military identification;
- A photo identification that was issued by the United States government or the State of Ohio, that contains the voter's name and current address and that has an expiration date that has not passed;

- An original or copy of a current utility bill with the voter's name and present address;
- An original or copy of a current bank statement with the voter's name and present address;
- An original or copy of a current government check with the voter's name and present address;
- An original or copy of a current paycheck with the voter's name and present address; or
- An original or copy of a current other government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that shows the voter's name and present address.

For more information about voting in Ohio, visit: [www.myohiovote.com](http://www.myohiovote.com).

470 Math Sciences Building  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403

phone 419-372-2011  
fax 419-372-0477

[www.bgsu.edu/housing](http://www.bgsu.edu/housing)  
[reslife@bgsu.edu](mailto:reslife@bgsu.edu)



## Appendix D – Residence Hall Bulletin Boards



# *FALCONS EVERYWHERE* **REGISTER**

The future will be decided by those who register by **October 11, 2016.**

To register to vote, simply complete a voter registration and information form. Then, take or mail the form to the local Board of Elections Office, Ohio public library, DMV or other approved location. Then, vote!

To obtain a registration form, visit  
**[bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes)**

**BGSU.**

Center for **Community**  
and **Civic Engagement**

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

B O W L I N G   G R E E N   S T A T E   U N I V E R S I T Y

17SVL5112





# FALCONS EVERYWHERE EARLY AND ABSENTEE VOTING

The future will be decided by those who vote  
**October 12, 2016 – November 7, 2016.**

In order to be eligible to vote, you must register by **October 11, 2016**. Can't make it to the polls **November 8, 2016**? No problem! You can vote early or by absentee ballot. While absentee ballots can be completed anytime, they have to be postmarked by **November 7, 2016**.

To obtain an absentee ballot application, visit  
**[bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes)**

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17SVL5112

# FALCONS EVERYWHERE

THE FUTURE WILL BE DECIDED BY THOSE WHO

# VOTE

**Out-of-state students** have a choice about where to register to vote. Students attending college in Ohio may register at their school address or register with their home state using their permanent address. Students may only be registered and vote in one location.

**Military and overseas students** have the option to exercise their voting rights even when outside the United States. Absentee voting for military and overseas students begins **September 24, 2016** and ends **November 7, 2016**.

For more information about out-of-state, overseas and military voting, visit:  
[bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes)

[bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes)

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17SVL2464



# FALCONS EVERYWHERE VOTE

The future will be decided by those who show up **November 8, 2016**.

In order to be eligible to vote, you must register by **October 11, 2016**. Early voting starts **October 12, 2016** and goes until **November 7, 2016**.

Absentee ballots must be postmarked by **November 7, 2016** or received in person on **November 8, 2016**.



[bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes)

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17SVL5112

# FALCONS EVERYWHERE VOTE

## Don't miss these deadlines:

### Military & Overseas Absentee Voting

Begins **September 24**, 45 days before Election Day

### Early In-Person Voting

Begins **October 12** and includes the Saturday, Sunday and Monday before Election Day

### Absentee Voting By Mail

Begins **October 12**, 28 days before Election Day

### Election Day Voting –

**November 8**, polls are open 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

### Other important dates

**October 11** – the deadline to register to vote

**November 5** – the deadline to request an absentee ballot (noon)

**November 7** – absentee ballot postmark deadline

**November 8** – absentee ballots must be dropped off at the Board of Elections Office by 7:30 p.m.

[bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes](http://bgsu.edu/bgsuvotes)

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