



## City Colleges of Chicago 2022 Action Plan

### **Executive Summary:**

The City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) is a system of seven public community colleges and five satellite sites that provide learning opportunities for residents of the Chicagoland area. Programs offered include two-year associate degrees, occupational certificates, high school equivalency courses, and English as a second language. The CCC system serves nearly 70,000 students annually and provides financial and student services support to all students across the seven colleges: Richard J. Daley College, Harold Washington College, Kennedy-King College, Malcolm X College, Olive-Harvey College, Truman College, and Wilbur Wright College.

The Office of Legislative and Community Affairs (LCA) strives to maintain positive relations between government offices, campus departments, and neighbors and works collaboratively with community groups to improve the educational experience of CCC students. LCA also cultivates community partnerships that are designed to give students opportunities to explore pathways to community involvement, leadership development, and civic engagement. This action plan seeks to uphold the values and objectives of the department alongside leadership across all 7 City Colleges through intentionally programs that aim to inform, prepare, and support all members of the community to participate in the democratic process.

City Colleges intends to promote civic engagement through institutional platforms year-round and is devoted to preparing students to engage in local, state, and national civic discourse. The action plan will serve as a guide to improve voter registration, educational programming, values of equity and social justice, and overall personal empowerment.

Leads at each campus will seek to provide information about candidates at all levels and share perspectives from all sides of the conversation. City Colleges, although 7 unique Colleges, will collectively promote the importance of democracy starting with a Pledge to Vote campaign in April 2022 for the Chicago primary election and conclude on November 8, 2022.

The goals of the campaign and complementary programming will foster civic education, voter literacy awareness, and facilitate increased student voter turnout in each election.

### **Leadership:**

The Office of Legislative and Community Affairs (LCA) will support programming at each of the 7 City Colleges. Implementation will be overseen by Elvis Guzman, District Director of Civic Engagement with the Office of Legislative and Community Affairs and supported by dedicated civic engagement leads at each campus. The Director will maintain and continue to manage local and national partnerships and will work collaboratively with Community Strategist to foster relationships across Chicago to increase democratic engagement on campus.

Through active participation across all 7 colleges, all campuses will provide students with a safe forum to explore relevant election topics and discuss candidate platforms. Through programming, students will be better prepared to vote for candidates that will have an impact on their communities and the future of Illinois.

**Campus Leads:**

Aja Humphreys, Director of Student Activities, Harold Washington College  
Jacquelyn Werner, Dean of Student Services, Harold Washington College  
Jerica Turek-Johnson, Director of Student Activities, Harry S. Truman College  
Julie Dockery, Associate Professor, English, Harry S. Truman College  
Kendra Torres, Director of Special Events, Kennedy King College  
Michael Johns, Director of Student Activities, Kennedy King College  
Chrishawn Young, Director of Student Activities, Malcolm X College  
Michelle Adams, Dean of Student Services, Olive-Harvey College  
Monice Purnell, Director of Student Activities, Olive-Harvey College  
Beverly Hicks, Director of Student Activities, Richard J. Daley College  
Douglas Geiger, Dean of Student Services, Richard J. Daley, College  
Gabe Estill, Dean of Instruction, Wilbur Wright College  
Katie Ordinario, Director of Student Activities, Wilbur Wright College  
Merry Mayer, Assistant Professor, Social and Psych Science, Wilbur Wright College  
Jen Mason, Vice Chancellor of Legislative and Community Affairs  
Elvis Guzman, District Director of Civic Engagement, Office of Legislative and Community Affairs  
Maggie West, Community Strategist, Office of Legislative and Community Affairs  
Nathanial Ward, Community Strategist, Office of Legislative and Community Affairs  
Sandra Payan, Community Strategist, Office of Legislative and Community Affairs  
Steven Gomez, Community Strategist, Office of Legislative and Community Affairs  
John Lohier, Student Intern, Office of Legislative and Community Affairs  
Vania Doss, District Director of Student Activities, Academic and Student Affairs

**Commitment:**

City Colleges of Chicago is determined to improve civic learning and democratic engagement in communities across the city through meaningful programming on campus. Presidents at each college are dedicated to improving voter outcomes and are committed to supporting students, staff, and faculty participate in local and national democratic processes.

Earlier this year, Harold Washington College and The Citizens Campaign announced the launch of a Citizen Leadership Center designed to train students and members of the community in no-blame, pragmatic problem-solving skills and provide opportunities for them to put their training to use as “citizen leaders” working to better Chicago and our country. Harold Washington College is one of 11 community colleges around the nation where model Citizen Leadership Centers are first being developed in partnership with The Citizens Campaign.

The Harold Washington College Citizen Leadership Center will have three core components: (1) offering training in leadership and no-blame problem solving in one or more undergraduate courses; (2) offering citizen leadership training to the broader community via the college’s Center of Excellence; and (3) hosting a Civic Trust, where those who have completed the citizen leadership training work together in No-Blame Problem Solving sessions to better Chicago by searching for and advancing cost-effective, evidence based solutions. Student at any of the 7 Colleges can take the leadership course for free and community members are invited to visit the

Center of Excellence website to enroll in the self-guided free training.

Additionally, Wilbur Wright College is a member of Campus Compact, a national organization that enable campuses to develop student's citizenship skills and forge community partnerships. As the only national higher education association, Campus Compact supports administrators, faculty, staff, and students as they pursue community-based teaching, scholarship, and action in the service of public good.

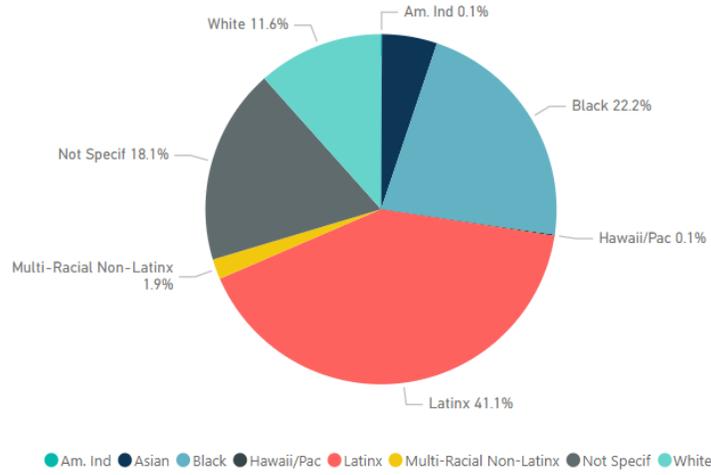
Student Government (SG) also plays a major role in engaging students in voter registration, voter readiness, and electoral education. SG promotes democratic engagement year-round through programming and partnerships that help inform the student body of candidates and election processes. SG will continue to provide opportunities and serve as the conduit between students and administrators.

**Landscape:**

City Colleges of Chicago campus demographic and voting data:

City Colleges of Chicago is one of the nation's largest community college districts and the largest in Illinois. About 5,000 thousand faculty and staff help prepare 70,000 students each year to enter the workforce, pursue higher education and advance their careers.

### Enrollment, by Ethnicity



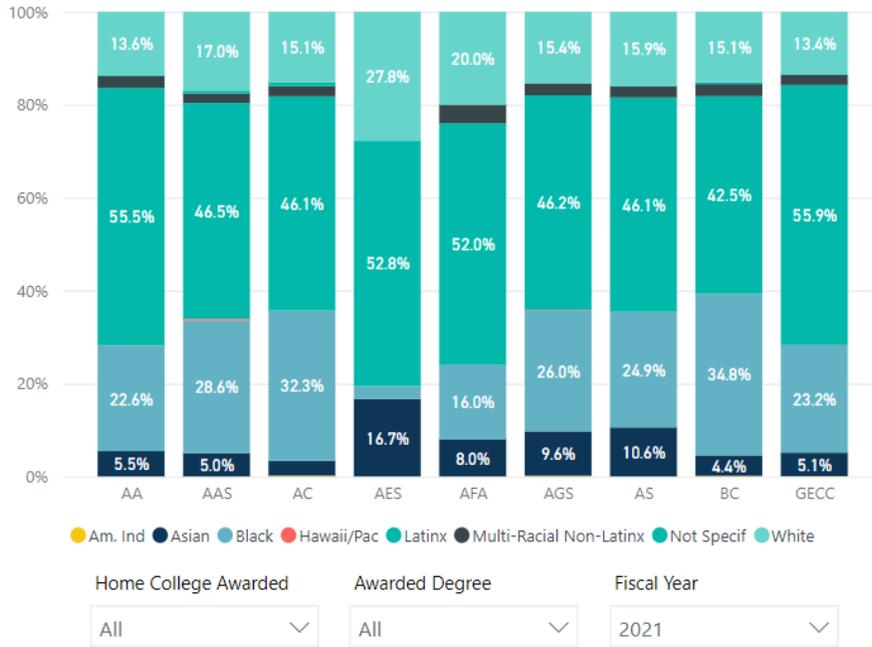
Home College Enrolled

Fiscal Year

Instructional Area	Asian	Black	Latinx	Multi-Racial Non-Latinx	White
Adult Education	820	2692	8604	143	1363
Continuing Education	188	1517	1411	89	543
Semester Credit	2577	11595	18996	1085	6248
<b>Total</b>	<b>3493</b>	<b>15274</b>	<b>28274</b>	<b>1284</b>	<b>7966</b>

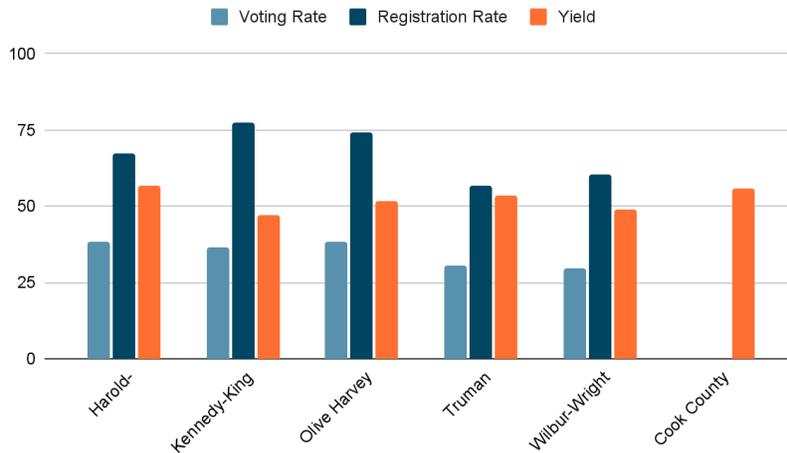
2021 Enrollment: American Indian - Credit: 44 Adult. Ed.: 9 Continuing Ed.: 5 Total: 58;  
 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander - Credit: 42 Adult. Ed.: 8 Continuing Ed.: 3 Total: 51  
 2021 Degrees and Certificates: American Indian - AC: 1, AGS: 1, BC: 2, GECC: 1;  
 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander - AA: 1, AAS: 2, AGS: 1

### Degrees and Certificates, by Ethnicity

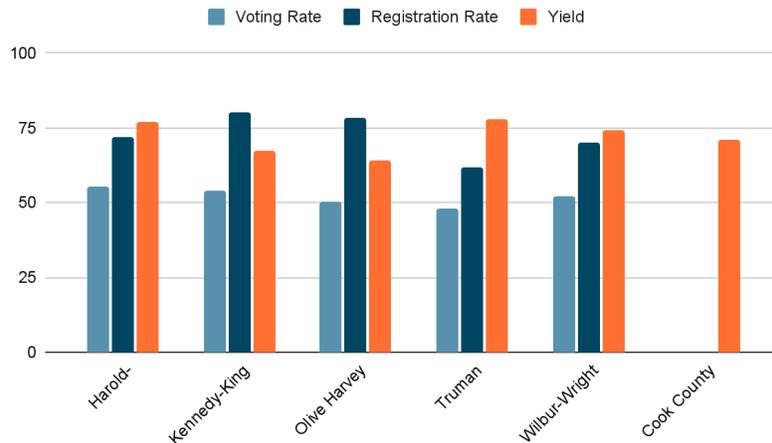


Degree Name	Asian	Black	Latinx	Multi-Racial Non-Latinx	White
AA - Associate of Arts	102	423	1036	48	254
AAS - Associate of Applied Science	32	182	296	13	108
AC - Advanced Certificate	18	187	267	13	88
AES - Associate of Engineering Science	6	1	19		10
AFA - Associate of Fine Arts	2	4	13	1	5
AGS - Associate of General Studies	67	182	324	18	108
AS - Associate of Science	79	186	345	18	119
BC - Basic Certificate	67	537	649	40	239
GECC - Gen Ed Credential	89	406	980	38	235
<b>Total</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>3143</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>970</b>

### Voting Rates by College - 2018



## Voting Rates by College - 2020



### Goals:

Democratic engagement goals:

City Colleges hopes to attain several different goals for the 2022 general election. Through a concerted effort amongst City Colleges and a strong campaign centered around the “Pledge to Vote”, CC aims to achieve 10,000 pledges by November 8, 2022.

Through intentional partnership and programming, City Colleges strives to increase the voting rate at each college by 2% from the 2020 election. Data captured in the campus report provided by the National Student of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) conducted by Tufts University will be used as CCC point of reference.

College	Voting Rate	2022 Goal
Harold Washington College	55% of eligible students	57% of eligible students
Harry S Truman	48% of eligible students	50% of eligible students
Kennedy King College	54% of eligible students	56% of eligible students
Malcolm X College	n/a	
Olive-Harvey College	50% of eligible students	50.2 of eligible students
Richard J Daley College	n/a	
Wilbur Wright College	52% of eligible students	54% of eligible students
<b>Illinois</b>	<b>72% of eligible residents</b>	
<b>Chicago</b>	<b>73% of eligible residents</b>	

Generally, City Colleges will strive to keep voter registration within 5% of 2020 levels in NSLVE report, make at least one contact with students throughout the academic year, and maintain constant outreach with occasional voters.

### Strategy:

City Colleges will coordinate events online and in-person. This hybrid approach will allow students to engage in programming whether they are enrolled in online courses or in-person. Virtual voter education events will include streaming debates, lectures, and social media engagement.

This year, City Colleges will focus on educational programming, voter registration, and the pledge to vote campaign. Voter registration will be led by three organizations:

- Chicago Votes
- The League of Women Voters
- The Rainbow Push Coalition

These organizations will visit college campuses throughout the year and encourage students, staff, and faculty to register to vote, check registration status, and update contact information that align with Illinois voter policies. These organizations will be supported by the Office of Legislative and Community Affairs, Student Activities, Campus Leads, and Student Government at each campus, respectively.

The “Take the Pledge” campaign will be in partnership with the All In Democracy Challenge organization. City Colleges will share updates through weekly reports provided by All In that will be shared with faculty, staff, and students through bulletins and internal campus newsletters. Collectively, City Colleges will project to have 10,000 pledges by fall 2022 general election. Marketing will create messaging to project across campus tv screens, newsletters, Brightspace (student classroom portal), and correspondences to students enrolled at the college. Reminders and goal progress will be made in weekly “411” communications across the district.

Additionally, LCA will work with faculty to include messaging in course syllabi, in-class programming (i.e. guest lectures). Leads will assist LCA through promotional social media posts, and student outreach, which include engaging Student Government and student clubs on campus.

#### Programming Outline:

- Monthly on-campus Voter Registration tables
- Guest Lecturers, educational topics relevant to democratic engagement
- Gradfest week programming – Pledge to Vote, graduating seniors
- Student Government led programming at each campus
- Second wave of pledge campaign during summer session – Starting June 8<sup>th</sup>
- Hold program on June 28<sup>th</sup> – Primary Election Day
- New student messaging throughout August- Pledge to Vote
- Third wave of campaign, last week of August (first week of classes)
- Hold program during National Voter Registration Day, September 20<sup>th</sup>
- Hold programming during National Voter Education Week, October 3<sup>rd</sup> – October 7<sup>th</sup>
- General Election Registration Deadline, registration tabling, October 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Parade to the polls, November 8<sup>th</sup>, SGA & Chicago Votes

#### **NSLVE:**

City Colleges of Chicago aims to have all 7 City Colleges participate in receiving a campus report. According to the 2020 report, 5 of the 7 colleges participating in the study, all of which demonstrated lower voter rates than peer institutions, as shown below. City Colleges aims to address the gaps in voting rates to match the average voting rate across peer institutions.

College	Voting Rate
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<b>Peer Institutions</b>	<b>56%</b>
Harry S Truman	48%
Harold Washington College	55%
Kennedy King	54%
Olive-Harvey	53%
Wright College	52%

**Evaluation:**

Each civic engagement lead at each Colleges will evaluate student engagement through attendance during on campus events and social media posts engagement.

City Colleges will monitor the All In Take the Pledge Campaign through weekly reports provided by the All In Democracy Campus Democracy Challenge.

**Reporting:**

The Office of Legislative and Community Affairs website is undergoing development. The website will be used to promote civic engagement and allow staff to centralize educational efforts surrounding local and national elections.

In the meantime, the All In Dashboard will be included in weekly newsletters at each college and social media posts will assist in the efforts to reach 10,000 pledges by the fall general election.

Additionally, each Lead at each campus will be responsible for monitoring attendance at events and will use data retrieved from the dashboard to influence further programming on campus.

Finally, we will rely on the NSLVE report to assess voter rates and to evaluate goal attainment.