



Clark College 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

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Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Clark College in Washington for the 2024 election. This action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 election. The goals for Clark College for the 2024 election are:

- Increase new and future voter engagement.
- Create student awareness of voter registration deadlines and mailing/dropping off ballots by the deadline through in person events and online marketing.
- Provide voter resources throughout campus to include service area front desks, tabling events, and student activities.
- Promote civic engagement dates along with nonpartisan legislative agenda information.

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

- Karin Edwards – College President
- Sarah Gruhler – Director of Student Life
- TBD - Political Science Professor
- Gurraj Dhami – ASCC President
- Keith Christian – ASCC Civics & Sustainability Director
- Mary Austin-Seymour – Clark County League of Women Voters

Commitment:

The vision statement of Clark College is:

Rooted in social justice, Clark College is a beacon of hope, opportunities, and transformation providing excellent and equitable education to create economic, cultural, and community growth.

Being a part of the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge helps us to fulfill this vision. By providing voter education and voter registration we can provide opportunities to create economic, cultural, and community growth. By making students more aware of the importance of civic involvement and voter participation they will become more engaged citizens.

Our commitment to nonpartisan democratic engagement will be communicated on campus and online.

President Karin Edwards has signed the ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation.

Landscape:

Clark College is a public community college and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2024. We offer an onsite ballot box, new and future voting resources such as PECC (Penguin Early College Center), and multilingual voter registration flyers.

Our campus demographic and voting data:

Headcount: 8,116

FTEs: 5,875

FTEs (state-funded): 4,278

Full-Time: 49.2%

Part-Time: 50.8%

Gender

Female: 55%

Male: 34.6%

Non-Binary: 0.8%

Not Reported: 9.6%

Age

19 or younger: 40.2%

20-29: 30.8%

30-39: 13.2%

40 or older: 15.8%

Race/Ethnicity

Asian: 6.3%

Black/African American: 2.8%

Hawaiian, Pacific Islander: 0.7%

Multiracial: 12.9%

Native American: 0.4%

White: 55.9%

Not Reported: 11.3%

Student Type

- BAS: 3.3%
- Continuing Education: 6.1%
- Non-Award Seeking: 5.3%
- Transfer: 53.2%
- Transitional Studies: 12.4%
- Corporate & Continuing Education: 19.8%

Selected Student Groups

- BAS: 163
- International: 49
- Running Start: 1,587

Student Status

- New: 33.7%
- Returning: 65.2%
- Transfer In: 1.1%

Modality*

In-Person: 6,488

Hybrid: 4,401

Online: 10,882

**Duplicated headcount*

Clark College authorized the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) in 2023 and has not yet received any campus voting data. Once Clark College receives our 2023 NSLVE report, we will include a breakdown of campus voting data in our action plan.

Goals:

Our institution's nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

Short Term Goals

- Recruit for and assemble a campus-wide Voter Engagement and Civic Education (VECE) Committee
- Promote non-partisan civic engagement and voter registration year around, both on-campus and off-campus through handouts, posters, calendars, events, and online marketing materials.
- Use Clark College's voter registration page whenever advertising voter registration to record number of online registrations
- Increase registered voter rate of enrolled students
- Increase student voter turnout rate for the November elections
- Increase youth engagement through early registration of 16- and 17-year-olds. Early registration will be available for PECC (Penguin Early College Center) students
- Collaborate with organizations such as the League of Women Voters and the Portland Chapter of The Links, Inc. as much as possible
- Foster a communication system with faculty on campus to inform students about voter registration, speaking in classes to inform students about voter registration

Long Term Goals

- Host a voter registration drive every quarter (except during the summer) encouraging students to register to vote and to vote overall
- Increase civic engagement for year-round election dates (sos.wa.gov/elections)
 1. Special Election – February 13
 2. Presidential Primary – March 12
 3. Special Election – April 23
 4. State Primary – August 6
 5. General Election – November 5
- Explore use of initiatives such as Civics for All of US, which offers live distance learning programs, webinars, and workshops on civics.
- Creation of specific statistical goals once initial data is collected.

Strategy:

Clark College will implement strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

- Provide voter registration information at Welcome Week tables and fall term events
- Participate in National Voter Education Week both in person and online
- Participate in state-wide legislative organizations to increase student government's awareness of issues impacting students
- Work with PECC (Penguin Early College Center) students for early registration
- Hold voter registration drives throughout the year, promoting civic engagement

- Promote voter participation by posting information on bulletin boards, calendars, weekly student emails, social media, and website
- College 101 presentations, Involvement Fair, National Voter Education Week, Election Day events

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

- Yearly NSLVE Reports: Clark College will set a baseline and standard for student voter engagement; we hope to meet or exceed the standards for civic engagement and year-round voter participation.
- WA State Voter Registration Link: Track numbers using the specific voter registration link provided by the State of Washington. The link tracks the number of students that register to vote.
- Track attendance at events and create evaluation forms for students to fill out to get input.

Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website:

<https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/clark-college/>

Our plan will be continually changing as we progress throughout the school year, our leadership team will also be changing annually and updating the All-In Campus Democracy Challenge plan.