



Civic and Voter Empowerment Plan Fall 2024 - Summer 2026

Executive Summary

At Compton College, every student is a success story. That success includes ensuring students are civically engaged so they can make positive changes in their lives and help shape the communities in which they live. Compton College supports civic engagement by providing students with opportunities to participate in civic engagement through workshops, extracurricular activities, student clubs, and peer-to-peer interactions.

The Compton College Civic and Voter Empowerment Action Plan (CVEAP) details the steps Compton College has and will implement to increase voter engagement. It outlines our commitment to helping our students develop into active, responsible, and engaged citizens.

The Compton College CVEAP will build on existing strengths in civic engagement and support campus departments, including auxiliaries, to ensure the most up-to-date voter information and registration are available. The Office of Student Development oversees the CVEAP's efforts.

Leadership

DeVora Seay
Student Activities Coordinator
dseay@compton.edu

Dr. Timothy Harrison
Dean of Athletics and Student Support Services
tharrison1@compton.edu

Landscape

Compton College fosters a positive environment that promotes civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation. We value cultural differences and strive for equity, justice, and inclusion. This commitment is reflected in our mission statement: "Compton College is a welcoming and inclusive community where diverse students are supported to pursue and attain student success. Compton College provides solutions to challenges, utilizes the latest techniques for preparing the workforce, and provides clear pathways for completion of programs of study, transition to a university, and securing living-wage employment."

Compton College offers several courses and participates in programs that emphasize important aspects of civic education, including #CaliforniansForAllCollegeCorps. This program deploys College Corps Fellows to tackle statewide challenges. Their first goal is to “Create a generation of civic-minded leaders with the ability to bridge divides and solve problems.” The third goal is to “Address societal challenges and help build more equitable communities across California.” This aligns with our strategic initiative to “Support the success of all students to meet their education and career goals.”

Compton College has no current voting data. We have identified several strategies that Compton College will implement to collect this data going forward.

1. Compton College will participate in the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge which empowers colleges and universities to achieve excellence in nonpartisan student democratic engagement.
2. Compton College will promote voter registration using the California Students Vote Project student registration portal <https://registertovote.ca.gov/?t=s> to help gather voter registration data.
3. Consider enrolling in the National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement (NSLVE). This program allows campuses to gain insights into political learning, institutional voter registration rates, and campus demographics, providing valuable information to help coalitions make informed decisions regarding civic engagement.

Reflection

Compton College has actively supported student civic engagement and empowerment, including promoting voter registration and encouraging students to vote. We annually celebrate Constitution Day with workshops, distributing copies of the U.S. Constitution, and holding a voter registration rally. In conjunction with Latinx and Hispanic Heritage Month 2023, we hosted a workshop on “*The Importance of the Brown Vote.*”

Compton College has an engaged Associated Student Government (ASG) that leads by example, promoting voter registration and other campus activities. The Student Council assists with planning and hosting campus events, promoting civic empowerment through student government, and participating in collaborative governance committees. The ASG extends this involvement to the state capital and national levels by attending the annual Student Senate of California Community Colleges (SSCCC) leadership conference in Sacramento and the American Student Association of Community Colleges National Advocacy conference in Washington, D.C. In December 2023, students also participated in the first SSCCC Advocacy Summit.

Additionally, we host an annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast and Celebration to promote civic engagement by teaching students about Dr. King’s legacy and keeping his dream and civic engagement alive. This event provides a valuable opportunity for Compton College students to interact with community members and civic leaders. Students learn firsthand about their participation in the Civil Rights Movement or how they have benefited from the commitment of people who fought for the right to vote, equal rights, and equal opportunities.

One lesson we learned during our voter registration campaign is the importance of offering multiple options for students to register to vote. Many of our students conduct numerous activities and

connect through digital media. Providing a QR code is essential as they prefer to do everything on their cell phones. We also learned that more seniors are returning to school, and they prefer to have paper voter registration forms to complete.

We recognize the need for bilingual partners to assist with voter registration at campus community events such as the community food bank (every second Tuesday of the month), the weekly Farmers' Market, and our annual Community Day. Creating additional partnerships will give us the potential to reach more students and community members.

Goals

Goal 1. Increase student voter registration through events and education.

Goal 2. Collect and analyze voter registration data annually.

Goal 3. Provide a safe and convenient polling place on campus.

Goal 4. Provide civic engagement opportunities for students on and off campus.

Short-Term Strategies (two years)

- Establish a Voter Empowerment Action Plan Coalition at Compton College with at least four active members.
- Utilize social media, campus emails, and poster campaigns to inform students and the campus community of essential voter registration information and elections.
- Maintain an updated Voter Information webpage on the Compton College website: <https://www.compton.edu/student-life/student-development/register-to-vote.aspx>
- Host at least three nonpartisan voter engagement events to educate students and employees about their voting rights and the importance of voting.
- Perform outreach about voting dates and deadlines including adding important voting dates to our online calendar of events.
- Host early voting on our campus.

Long-Term Strategies (five years)

- Increase voter turnout among students each year by organizing annual voter engagement campaigns, including events and social media drives to educate and motivate students about the importance of voting.
- Collaborate with Enrollment Services to include voter registration in the onboarding of new students through information sessions and on-the-spot registration opportunities.
- Recruit and train Associated Student Government members who will lead civic engagement activities and act as peer mentors.

Events

Fall 2024 through Summer 2025:

- Monday-Thursday, August 26-29, 2024, from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.
League of Women Voters registering students at Welcome Week Resource Fair.
- California University and College Ballot Bowl, August 12 – November 5, 2024
Engage students to become active participants in our democracy, and showcase our commitment to civic engagement and voter participation.
- September 4 - October 30, 2024, from 3:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Associated Student Government promoting voter registration at weekly Farmers' Market.
- Tuesday, September 17, 2024, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Constitution Day presentation and Voter Registration Rally by faculty member Diego Aguilar.
- Saturday, September 21, 2024, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
2nd District Student Policy Summit Environmental Justice
College students are invited to join the Office of Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell for a unique opportunity to pitch environmental justice policy ideas for their community, collaborate directly with her staff to develop real-world solutions, learn about the County Board of Supervisors, and connect with peers.
- Wednesday, October 9, 2024, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
The LGBTQ+ Vote guest speaker Dr. Jerome Hunt
- Monday, October 21, 2024, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Voter Registration Rally - last day to register to vote for the general election hosted by the Office of Student Development.
- Tuesday -Thursday, February 18-20, 2025, from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.
League of Women Voters will register students at the Welcome Week Resource Fair.
- May 2025 (two hours)
Women's History Month Tea – Women and the Vote, guest speaker TBD.

Fall 2025 through Summer 2026*

- August 2025: Voter Registration during Welcome Week Resource Fair.
- Wednesday, September 17, 2025 : Constitution Day and Voter Registration Rally
- February 2026, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.: Voter Registration during Welcome Week Resource Fair

**Additional events will be added as we near the 2025-2026 academic school year.*