



## Delaware Valley University 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Andrew Moyer

### Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Delaware Valley University (DeVal) in Pennsylvania for the 2024 election. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 election. The goals for Delaware Valley University for the 2024 election are to:

1. Recognize all four civic holidays during the Fall 2024 semester.
2. Create a standing Leadership Team to shepherd this work moving forward in perpetuity.

While the goals are basic, they represent an increase in both programming and commitment from the University to support student democratic engagement.

### Leadership:

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

Tanya Casas – Dean, School of Business, Arts and Sciences

Leyla Danis – Manager of Social Media and Web

Pat Morin – League of Women Voters (external partner)

Andrew Moyer – Dean, Student Success and Engagement

Leah Quijano – President, Civics Club

Alex Sutton – Coordinator of Student Programming, Office of Student Involvement

Jordan Walp – President, Student Government Association

### Commitment:

Currently, the University recognizes and celebrates Constitution Day. For Fall 2024 and moving forward, the University commits to recognizing all four civic holidays to bring nonpartisan democratic engagement awareness to students. The creation of the Leadership Team takes the

work from one person to a group of people to ensure succession planning. Currently the plan is co-curricular in nature. Future Action Plans will explore curricular connections.

DeVal provides students with the requisite skills and a spirit of inquiry that enrich and inform their lives, prepare them to pursue meaningful careers, and fulfill societal, community and family responsibilities. This effort supports two of the six University Core Values. These are:

- **Value the World of Ideas and Differences:** Our community recognizes the necessity of cultivating curiosity and honoring diversity. We engage with ideas that challenge us and with people different from ourselves, showing deep respect for diverse points of view and backgrounds.
- **Respect All People:** Our community serves all stakeholders with care and dignity. We are intensely focused on both the welfare and growth of each of our students, and we support their development as global citizens who achieve meaningful success in their careers and in their lives.

This is the first action plan that our institution has developed for ALL IN. Delaware Valley University is not a current signatory to ALL IN's Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation. This is an area for exploration in future action plans.

## Landscape:

DeVal is a small private university in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. DeVal joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2024.

Doylestown is the County seat for Bucks County. Election information is overseen by the Bucks County Board of Elections. Information regarding voter registration, vote by mail, and drop box elections can be found here: <https://buckscounty.gov/185/Register-to-Vote>.

For the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, election information is overseen by the Department of State with all voting and elections information found here: <https://vote.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

With many students from the State of New Jersey, DeVal provides basic information on voting and election information from the New Jersey Department of State Division of Elections found here: <https://www.nj.gov/state/elections/vote.shtml>

Our campus demographic data is below:

- Delaware Valley University has 2,303 students.
- Full Time undergraduate student enrollment in Spring 2024 was 1,647 students.
  - The remaining students are either part time undergraduate students or enrolled in various graduate degree programs or certificate programs.
- 56% of undergraduate students are residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Most out-of-state students are from the State of New Jersey.
  - 25% of students are New Jersey residents.
- Approximately 60% of students reside on campus.
- Approximately 40% of students either commute or live off-campus.
- Our institution is designated as a Predominantly White Institution.
- Undergraduate headcount by race / ethnicity for Spring 2024
  - American Indian or Alaska Native 2 0.1%

- o Asian 23 1.4%
- o Black or African American 135 8.1%
- o Hispanic/Latino 153 9.1%
- o Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander 1 0.1%
- o White, non-Hispanic 1,123 67.1%
- o U.S. Nonresident 6 0.4%
- o Two or more races 49 2.9%
- o Race and/or ethnicity unknown 182 10.9%

Delaware Valley University participates in the following initiatives to support the development and implementation of our nonpartisan democratic engagement efforts on campus:

- Annual Constitution Day recognition and pocket Constitution distribution
- Voter Registration and Information Session each academic semester.
- The programming above occurs in partnership with the Buck County League of Women Voters

## Goals:

Our institution's nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

1. Recognize all four civic holidays during the Fall 2024 semester.
  - a. Constitution Day and National Voter Registration Day, Sept. 17
  - b. National Voter Education Week, Oct. 7-11
  - c. Vote Early Day, Oct. 29
  - d. Election Hero Day, Nov. 4
2. Create a standing Leadership Team to shepherd this work moving forward in perpetuity.
  - a. Expand current leadership team to include:
    - i. One additional staff member
    - ii. One additional student
    - iii. One faculty member
  - b. Complete expansion by December 2024
  - c. Starting in calendar year 2025, convene the Leadership Team quarterly to develop and execute additional programming that supports:
    - i. Student voter registration, education, and turnout
3. Explore participation in the ALL IN's Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation
  - a. During the Fall 2024 semester, work with the Office of the President to determine interest in the commitment.

## Strategy:

Delaware Valley University will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

- Communications Plan:
  - o Email to campus Community announcing programming and participation in All In Campus Democracy Project. Sent during the first week of classes in Fall 2024.

- o Email to campus Community detailing voter registration information and education. Sent during the second week of classes in Fall 2024.
- o Social Media posts on the main DeVal account utilizing social media resources from:
  - [Ready to Vote Toolkit](#)
  - [All In to Vote Resources](#)
- Programming Plan:
  - o Programs for Four Civic Holidays
    - Tabling in the dining hall on each of the four civic holidays
    - Partnership with the League of Women Voters, as they are able, to attend programming at DeVal.

## Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

Goal: Recognize all four civic holidays during the Fall 2024 semester.

Evaluation: Track attendance at each civic holiday program; Voter Registration will occur at events prior to Voter Registration deadlines and will be tracked.

Goal: Create a standing Leadership Team to shepherd this work moving forward in perpetuity.

Evaluation: Success defined as completing expansion by December 2024

Goal: Starting in calendar year 2025, convene the Leadership Team quarterly to develop and execute additional programming that supports student voter registration, education, and turnout

Evaluation:

Goal: Explore participation in the ALL IN's Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation. During the Fall 2024 semester, work with the Office of the President to determine interest in the commitment.

Evaluation:

Once the Leadership Team is expanded and empaneled, as outlined in Goal #2, the team will explore authorization of the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) to receive campus voting data to help with the evaluation of our action plan and nonpartisan democratic engagement efforts.

## Reporting:

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

<https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/delaware-valley-university/>.

During our inaugural of completing the Action Plan, DeVal will share the Action Plan with the campus community via the Student Life section of the website and the weekly digest. This initial action ensures that the Action Plan is communicated with all members of the campus community.