



Evergreen Valley College 2022 Democratic Engagement Action Plan



Developed by: Marjorie Clark

Overview

Evergreen Valley College (EVC) was founded in 1975 in San Jose, California, in the heart of Silicon Valley. The college is fully accredited as a two-year degree-granting institution by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It is designated as a Hispanic-Serving and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander -Serving Institution.

In 1999, the college established the Service-Learning & Public Service (SL&PS) program to serve as the primary campus resource for all service-learning, public service and civic engagement activities for students, faculty, and staff. SL&PS mission is to prepare students for lifelong civic engagement in pursuit of a more equitable and sustainable world. The program's work is grounded in the college's guiding principles of equity, opportunity, and social justice.

Point of Contact for Designation Process

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Executive Summary

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Evergreen Valley College EVC Votes Steering Committee for the 2022 Midterm Elections. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2022 Midterm Elections. The goals for Evergreen Valley College for the 2022 elections are to:

- Increase student voter turnout rate by 5% in 2022 and 10% in 2024.
- Increase student voter registration rate 5% in 2022 and 10% in 2024.

Leadership

EVC Votes Steering committee leadership team includes the following:

Marjorie Clark Coordinator, Service-Learning & Public Service

David Hendricks EVC Faculty, History

Raniyah Johnson Director Student Development & Activities

Elizabeth Kramer EVC Faculty, Language Arts

Angelina Loyola EVC Faculty, Sociology

Melissa-Ann Nievera-Lozano EVC, Ethnic Studies

Tiffany O'Brien Program Assistant, Service Learning & Public Service

Guy Ras Faculty EVC Faculty, Political Science

Josh Russell Director of Marketing & Public Relations, President's Office

Brandon Yanari Acting Director, Outreach & Recruitment Enrollment Services

Commitment

In 2008 the Evergreen Valley College SL&PS program established the *EVC Votes* initiative to advance and nurture a culture of social responsibility, civic literacy, and community engagement at the college. EVC Votes goals are in alignment with Evergreen Valley College's mission to empower and prepare students from diverse backgrounds to succeed academically and to be civically responsible global citizens.

In 2016 the Evergreen Valley College SL&PS program joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge to increase EVC students' voting rates, which were below national average. Evergreen Valley College has been a signatory to the Higher Education Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation since 2022.

Landscape

Our campus demographic and voting data:

Evergreen Valley College has 7,593 undergraduate students, with 30% full-time and 70% part-time student population. The college has a very diverse student population with 45% Hispanic, 39% Asian, 7% white, 3% two or more races, 3% unknown, and 2% black. Over 50% of the student population identities as female.

Evergreen Valley College has authorized NSLVE and had a:

- 2020 voter turnout rate of 50.7%
- 2020 voter registration rate of 65.1%
- 2018 voter turnout rate of 27.6%
- 2018 voter registration rate of 54.6%

Our institution has been recognized by ALL IN with the following seals:

- 2018 Silver
- 2020 Bronze

Goals

Our campus democratic engagement goals are:

- Increase student voter turnout rate by 10% in 2022 and 15% in 2024.
- Increase student voter registration rate 5% in 2022 and 10% in 2024.

Strategy

Evergreen Valley College will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

- Expand EVC Votes Steering Committee to include students, Financial Aid & Scholarship, Disability Support Program, Athletics, Political Science faculties, local and national community organizations
- Sponsor year-round civic engagement activities
- Create a first-year student civic engagement experience
- Re-establish partnership with Santa Clara Registrar of Voters
- Work with EVC Associated Student Government to institutionalize civic engagement in their charge
- Identify strategies and activities to engage college community in ongoing discussions about the role of community colleges and civic engagement
- Participate in National Voter Registration Day
- Participate in Vote Early Day

Evaluation

The *EVC Votes Civic Engagement Steering Committee* will evaluate the 2022 Action Plan by using the 2022 NSLVE voting data. We will also examine our participation rates in our civic engagement activities, by tracking enrollment in our database.

Reporting

EVC Votes Action Plan will be posted on our campus website and on ALL IN's website. Additionally, Evergreen Valley College has given ALL IN permission to publish our NSLVE reports, which are posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website.