

**Glendale Community College,
2024-2026
Civic and Voter Empowerment Action Plan**

Executive Summary

Glendale Community College (GCC) is committed to creating a welcoming and student-centered atmosphere fostering students' educational excellence while placing high priority on their civic engagement. GCC's mission prompts students to engage in community partnerships and feel empowered by its values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and open access. This is visible through GCC's campus governance and community-building initiatives. By embracing this model, students' voices are at the forefront of the institution and are pertinent in the decision-making process.

The action plan set for implementation includes efforts to share GCC's custom voter registration link to encourage students to register to vote, host nonpartisan voter engagement events to educate students about the importance of voting, and doing outreach about voting dates and deadlines. The Office of Student Affairs will collaborate with college-wide campus representatives such as faculty, staff and students to set up recurring voter registration opportunities and generate opportunities for students to gain more insight about their voting choices.

To ensure an equitable practice is maintained, our efforts will cater to our Distance Education (DE) students by serving voter registration information and links on the GCC [website](#). Additionally, modes of communication and any recorded online events will be made available and accessible through the GCC website and on social media platforms such as Instagram.

Leadership

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Campus Leadership:

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Student Support:

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Landscape

Despite the barriers of returning to an in-person learning environment in Fall 2022, approximately 14,000 students received emails with voting information and deadlines and links to register to vote. Although Los Angeles County did not share statistics with Glendale Community College about how many individuals voted or dropped off ballots at the Vote Center, the community was able to vote or drop off their ballot at Glendale College, expanding our reach as a place to promote voter and civic engagement.

Reflection

AB963 mandates that campuses hold a minimum of three election outreach events to increase civic learning, democratic participation, and voter turnout. Glendale Community College hosted six events leading up to the election, with the participation of student clubs and organizations, staff, faculty, and guest speakers. Approximately 150 people participated in the event series. All events were publicized college-wide. Below are the listed schedule of events that occurred during the 2022 election cycle:

1. **Voter Registration Tabling with HeadCount** - Thursday, September 22, 2022
2. **SIFTing Through Dis/misinformation: Know What to Trust, Share, and Act on** - Thursday, October 6, 2022
Presenters: Aisha Conner-Gaten, Jennie Quinonez-Skinner, Becka Cooling, Juan Carols Huezo, Librarians in partnership with City of Glendale
3. **Voting: Suppression and Expansion** - Tuesday, October 18, 2022
Presenters: Dr. Cameron Hastings and Shatha Sbeta, Political Science Professors
4. **Abortion, Gambling, Taxes: What Else Are We Voting On?** - Wednesday, October 26, 2022
Presenter: Mona Field, Political Science Professor Emeritus
5. **ASGCC Voting Information Tabling** - Wednesday, November 2, 2022
6. **Voters Get Donuts and Voter Engagement Celebration** - Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Upon further reflection, some of the best practices to increase voter turnout at the college included partnering with the Office of Marketing and Community Outreach team. GCC sent three emails to the entire student body during the Fall 2022 semester leading up to the election. Emails included sharing required information from the California Secretary of State, as well as GCC's custom voter registration link. Additionally, the marketing team advertised the same information on social media posts through GCC's Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Other outreach methods included:

1. The academic calendar and online event calendar shared election information and key dates (deadline to register to vote, National Voter Registration Day, Election Day)

2. GCCs custom webpage, www.glendale.edu/vote was updated to share comprehensive voting resources, links, deadlines and information.
3. ASGCC (Associated Student Government) shared event and voter registration information with the student body.
4. Nonpartisan voter guides were shared with students.
5. Students were given information about how to sign up to be a poll worker.
6. Presentations were made to ASGCC and to student-athletes to encourage participation.
7. The Library created a Campus Guide with voting information and had a voter information booth available with materials.
8. The Art Gallery hosted an art exhibit called “Popular Vote” with political themes.
9. Professors shared voter registration information in course materials on Canvas.

Goals

Short-term (2-year)

Some of GCC’s short-term goals to increase civic education and voter engagement include the following:

1. Email and social media communication disbursement to GCC students regarding upcoming voter dates and deadlines, information and knowledge regarding relevant voting subjects, and being a voting center for the community.
2. Regarding campus coalitions, these will occur through a process of recruitment and volunteer opportunities. Currently, recruitment has begun through the Social Science division, ASGCC, and the Marketing & Recruitment department. This coalition is made up of dedicated and passionate individuals motivated to provide accurate information to and empower GCC students in feeling more confident in their voting decisions.
3. Extra Credit offered by Social Science Professors to Increase Voter Registration

Long-term (5-year)

Some of GCC’s long-term goals to increase civic education and voter engagement include the following:

1. Encouraging professors to discuss voter education and civic engagement with their students/ post communication about this on the Canvas shells.
2. Maintain partnerships with Glendale Unified School District to set up GCC as a polling site for upcoming elections.
3. Continue to develop partnerships with community organizations such as non-profits, government agencies or advocacy groups to assist in educating our students about the importance of voting and understanding voting matters.
4. Host annual forums, debates, or guest speakers to provide diverse perspectives and promote critical thinking.

5. Collaborate with on-campus resources and programs such as the Library, the Learning Center, and ASGCC to equip students with the skills and knowledge to engage them in future civic engagement.
6. Fostering an alumni network to promote lifelong civic engagement and the opportunity for alumni to interact with current GCC students.
7. Work alongside Admissions & Records to incorporate voter registration into student enrollment.

Events

Fall 2023

1. ASGCC How to Register to Vote
2. Civic Fest - November 30th at 12:00pm in SC212

Fall 2024

1. VP Debate Watch Party - October 1st at TBD - Fact Check split screen during the debate
2. ASGCC Voter Registration Table - October 15th at 12:00pm in Student Center - Get a donut when you register to vote!
3. California Ballot Measures: What You Need to Know - October 10th at 12:30pm in BV101
4. Roundtable by Political Science and Sociology Professors about the electoral college and how voting works
5. Voters Get Donuts/Cookies and Voter Engagement Celebration

Spring 2025

6. Presentations by Political Science and Sociology Professors about how to run for office
7. Roundtable of elected officials talking about their experiences and journey on how to run for office