All in Challenge Action Plan
Hamilton College
May 2022

At Hamilton, our branch of the ALL IN Challenge, HamVotes, is working to improve our status and position on campus to become a long-lasting organization that students know well. We created this action plan in accordance with the goals of both the All In Challenge and the Hamilton campus to ensure we hold ourselves accountable for the outcomes of HamVotes.

We are in the process of transitioning to a new model in which paid student staff have primary responsibility for overseeing our non-partisan voter engagement programs, including developing this action plan. We will focus on three areas for our action plan: 1) creating and implementing the new structure, 2) ensuring compliance with the dear colleague letter, and 3) taking the lead in working with local officials on a new NY State law that requires a polling place on or near campus.

New Structure

We anticipate having four paid student coordinators, about eight captains (paid-workers one level down from the coordinators), and volunteers. We plan for the coordinator position to be permanent, while the captains will be semester-long positions and the volunteers will be on an as needed basis. We anticipate the coordinator positions to be as follows:

- Outreach: managing email and bringing initiatives to campus and working with local communities
  1. ALL IN Challenge
  2. Working with student coordinators at peer institutions
  3. External facing work
  4. Work with Clinton/Utica

- Social Media: managing our social media accounts and creating info graphics and promote our events/organization
  1. Email
     a. Adding link to online registration
     2. Getting access to Hamilton College Instagram when we want to do takeovers

- Events: registration events, working with CAB and organizing other campus events
  1. Common Ground/debates/issues forums
  2. Coordinate with Levitt, President’s office, etc.
  3. Coordinating Town Hall meetings with candidates

- Volunteer/Employment: recruiting and managing volunteers, knowing where registration forms go to
1. Oversee captains (Fall 2022) or other responsibilities that involve general oversight of other levels of employment

The captains will primarily be hired at the beginning of the new semesters, with flexible roles that will be better established once the position is filled. We intend to have weekly meetings with both coordinators and captains to discuss action plans and outline both short-term and long-term goals.

We made the shift from a more traditional campus organization to be under our Levitt Center for Public Affairs and Outreach because we lacked adequate resources and support. Our transition to this Center also allows us to pay our students and to create an employment opportunity for them, rather than just student organization leaders. This provides students the opportunity to take on greater responsibility and more significant roles to increase campus involvement and solidify the organization as a campus institution for years to come.

Dear Colleague Letter

In order to address the Dear Colleague letter and the distribution of voter registration forms, we plan on organizing an email distribution that provides information for students. This information will ideally be deadlines for absentee ballots and voter registration changes, as well as a reminder of when to vote and who all the candidates for the district are. While we know this is ambitious, we hope to get as close to this as possible. Furthermore, we intend to have campus-wide voter registration drives and other locations where students can pick up and drop off voter registration forms. We also have plans to involve student groups in distribution of forms and other educational materials in order to reach the largest population of students and ensure that we are interacting with students with diverse backgrounds.

NY State Law

With new New York State law changes, we are now required to have a polling place accessible to our campus. We are still figuring out what this will look like, which involves us connecting with the local community and government to discuss their views and thoughts on this law. We will work with county officials to better understand the needs of the community and work to balance their needs with the needs of our campus community in accordance with the new law changes.