



Kirkwood Community College 2022 Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: David McMahon

Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Kirkwood Community College in Iowa for the 2022 election. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2022 midterm election. The goals for Kirkwood Community College for the 2022 election are: to educate students for democracy by providing the information necessary to register and vote in 2022.

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following:

David McMahon - Professor of History
Finn Kolsrud - Associate Professor of Sociology
Seth Vander Tuig - Director of Student Life

Our campus works with these following nonprofit partners: Campus Compact, League of Women Voters, County election officials.

Commitment:

Civic Engagement is one of Kirkwood Community College's Student Learning Outcomes. As an institution it is committed to providing every student an education in democracy. The Civic Engagement team works to provide curricular and co-curricular support, creating shared experiences that connect students with the broader community.

Kirkwood Community College

Landscape:

Kirkwood Community College is a public community college and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2016.

Our campus demographic and voting data:

Kirkwood Community College has 12,277 students.

Kirkwood Community College has authorized NSLVE.

Our institution had a 2020 campus voting rate of 63.5%.
Our institution had a 2020 voter registration rate of 79.1%.

Our institution had a 2018 voter turnout rate of 35.3%.
Our institution had a 2018 voter registration rate of 71%.

Our institution has been recognized in the past by ALL IN for these awards: 2020 IA Campus Voting Challenge 2-year: Highest Voter Registration & Highest Voter Turnout & Most Improved Voter Turnout & Best Action Plan

Our institution has been recognized by ALL IN with the following seals: 2018 Silver, 2020 Silver

Goals:

Our campus democratic engagement goals are:

Goal: Increase student voter turnout rate by 3% in 2022 and in 2024.

Goal: Increase student voter registration rate by 3% in 2022 and in 2024.

Provide programming throughout the year that encourages democratic engagement on the part of students.

Strategy:

Kirkwood Community College will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

At Kirkwood we plan and promote [Civic Holidays](#) like Constitution Day, National Voter Registration Day, National Voter Education Week, Vote Early Day, and Election Day. We will hold various informative programs, including participating in a multi-state deliberation and a Pizza at the Polls on Election Day or during early voting.

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

The Civic Engagement team evaluates progress on a continual basis, monitoring interest and relevance of programming. We continue democratic engagement throughout the school year and seek to engage student leaders in the process.

Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website <https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/kirkwood-community-college/>.

Our institution has given ALL IN permission to publish our NSLVE reports which are posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website.

We also share our progress through department meetings, campus-wide announcements, and during Collaborative Learning Days.