



Lake Washington Institute of Technology 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by:

- Ayumi Mori, Associated Student Government Representative for Marketing and Communications
- In collaboration with Dr. Sheila Walton, Director of Office of Student Life/Student Government Advisor, and Dr. Ruby Hayden, Vice President of Student Services

Executive Summary

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Lake Washington Institute of Technology in Washington for the 2024 election. This action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 election. The goals for Lake Washington Institute of Technology for the 2024 election are:

- Raise awareness of voter registration rules and deadline dates to enhance students' understanding of the electoral process
- Make students aware of political issues, and candidates through voter education initiatives
- Hold engagement programs like voter registration information tables.

Leadership

The Lake Washington Institute of Technology (LW Tech) Associated Student Government (ASG) will facilitate voter registration and voter education programs leading up to the November 2024 elections. ASG will take the primary lead in implementing the action plan and related activities to engage the student body. Our leadership team includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

Senior Leadership

- Dr. Ruby Hayden – Vice President of Student Services
- Dr. Sheila Walton – Director, Office of Student Life (OSL), Student Government Advisor

Student Representatives (ASG members):

- Jack Huleen – President
- Maria Shvets – Vice President of Equity and Engagement
- Foram Joshi – Representative for Committees
- Maria Bogosian – Representative of Finance and strategy
- Ayumi Mori – Representative for Marketing and Communications

Local Election Officials:

- Washington Secretary of State ([Contact Info | WA Secretary of State](#))

Non-Partisan Partner Organizations:

- League of Women Voters ([Home | League of Women Voters \(lww.org\)](#))

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to safeguarding and enhancing voting rights, advocating for equitable representation in our democracy, and empowering voters through advocacy, education, and litigation efforts spanning both local and national arenas. The League of Women Voters hosts hundreds of candidate debates and forums across the country each year, offering valuable insights into candidates and ballot issues. Through these events, they educate voters and contribute to increased voter registrations, volunteering over 14,500 hours to host events in high schools and community colleges nationwide.

Roles and Responsibilities

Senior leadership and student representatives will work together to create and implement campus wide activities to engage current voters, potential voters, and future voters in educational voting experiences, voter registration booths, and classroom visits.

- The VP of Student Services will be responsible for maintaining a high-level awareness of election planning programs with their college's executive cabinet members. This will ensure there is alignment between all college sectors.
- The OSL Director will be responsible for ensuring ASG officers are aware of the All In voting plan, due to student attrition throughout the year.
- ASG officers will be responsible for creating engaging campus activities of election awareness including voter registration booths, election and campaigning dates, hosting non-partisan partner organizations, classroom visits and passive activities for student engagement including: election expectations, favorite thing about voting, and bulletin board management of election information.

Commitment

LWTech's mission is "To prepare students for today's careers and tomorrow's opportunities." One opportunity for tomorrow is being an informed citizen of election and voting rights. The commitment to voting rights and election education is strong at LWTech. Campus administration actively plans for election education programs for the campus during major election years. This includes communication about employee expectations, campus activities planned by students and attended by senior administration and making available voter registration materials in open and accessible areas for the campus community.

ASG regularly and actively engages with non-partisan community partners, in major election years and non-major election years, to host voter registration and election information booths in the campus' open activity area. They also communicate with the campus community through social media and print posters, posted on campus bulletin boards.

The [ALL-IN Higher Education Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation](#) has been signed by the President of LWTech, Dr. Amy Morrison.

Election Landscape

The following election laws impact our campus community: voter registration laws, vote-by-mail processes, new resident resources, absentee and military overseas voter resources, formally justice involved students, future voting program, and resources for students with disabilities. The following are examples of the Stat's election landscape.

Voter Registration Laws

Voters may register to vote online, by paper when printed from the secretary of state webpage, requesting a registration form mailed to their home, and automatically through driver's license application and fulfillment.

Vote by Mail Process

Washington State votes by mail. Mail elections are an alternative to polling place voting. Prior to each election, a ballot is mailed to every eligible registered voter. When ballots are mailed, each county elections office also opens a voting center for in-person registration and voting services through Election Day.

New Resident Resources

New residents of Washington State can register to vote online with [VoteWA](#), [by mail](#), [in person](#), or when they get a new state driver license or ID at the Department of Licensing. New enhanced drivers' licenses are automatically registered to vote.

Absentee Ballot Request / Military and Overseas Voters

Military or overseas voters have several options for registering to vote, receiving a ballot and returning it. If someone is a military spouse or dependent, and they are away from home because of the military service, they also qualify as a military voter. Military and overseas voters are exempt from the regular voter registration deadlines. The last day to register and request a ballot is Election Day. Even if they are not registered, they may still vote and send in a ballot because your signature on the declaration attests to your eligibility and constitutes registration. This allows for flexibility for our campus events and supports our continued engagement of student veterans. In 2021, 2.7% of our enrollment reported being a veterans or military dependent.

Formally Justice Involved Students

Effective January 1st, 2022, if someone were convicted of a felony in Washington State, another state, or in federal court, their [right to vote](#) will be restored automatically as long as they are not currently serving a sentence of total confinement in prison. This empowers our students who are formally involved with the justice system.

Future Voter Program

In Washington state, 16- and 17-year-olds can sign up as Future Voters and be automatically registered to vote when they become eligible. A voter who turns 18 between the August Primary and the November General Election can vote in the Primary ([RCW 29A.08.170](#)). In 2021, 8.7% of enrolled students were reported as age from 0 to 20. This program will be helpful to engage future voters.

Students with Disabilities

The State offers [American Sign Language videos](#), accessible on the Secretary of State voter eligibility webpage, encouraging all students with a hearing disability to engage in the voter registration system.

Students may register online, by mail with a paper form (available on campus in multiple languages), or at a county election office. It is easy to check your registration status at the [voteWA.gov webpage](#), a registration and ballot management portal. In 2021, 5.6% of our students were reported to have a form of disability.

Campus Demographics and Student Data

Our public student data from 2021, included in some of the laws that will impact student engagement described below. Additionally, other student data informing our election education event planning efforts is detailed here.

Gender	
Female	3048
Male	1983
Unknown	23

High School Enrollment at LWTech	
Students enrolled in High School Programs; including Open Doors Reengagement Program, Running Start, LWTech Academy	262

Citizenship Status	
U.S. Citizen	57.6%
Other non-citizen	31.5%
Permanent Resident	7.6%
International Student	2.3%
Not Reported	1.0%

Race/Ethnicity	
White	43.8%
Not Reported	25.7%
Asian	13.3%
Other Race	9.5%
African American	4.9%
Hispanic	1.3%
American Indian	.8%
Pacific Islander	.4%
Alaskan Native	.2%
NHOPI	.1%

Reported Ages in Year Ranges	
0—20	8.7%
21—30	40.3%
31—40	26.8%
41—50	16.1%
51—60	5.0%

Washington State Voting Calendar

The State of Washington voting calendar will guide campus activity development and student engagement for activities.

Special Election Calendar, 2024

- January 26 Start of 18-day voting period (through Election Day). Ballots are mailed out and Accessible Voting Units (AVUs) are available at voting centers.
- February 5 Online and mail registrations must be received 8 days before Election Day. Register to vote in person during business hours and any time before 8:00 p.m. on Election Day
- February 13 Deadline for Washington State voter registration (in person only)
- February 13 Special Election - Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Presidential Primary Calendar, 2024

- February 23 Start of 18-day voting period (through Election Day). Ballots are mailed out and Accessible Voting Units (AVUs) are available at voting centers.
- March 4 Online and mail registrations must be received 8 days before Election Day. Register to vote in person during business hours and any time before 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- March 12 Deadline for Washington State voter registration (in person only)
- March 12 Presidential Primary, Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Special Election Calendar, 2024

- April 5 Start of 18-day voting period (through Election Day). Ballots are mailed out and Accessible Voting Units (AVUs) are available at voting centers.
- April 15 Online and mail registrations must be received 8 days before Election Day. Register to vote in person during business hours and any time before 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- April 23 Deadline for Washington State voter registration (in person only)
- April 23 Special Election - Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Candidate Filing Calendar, 2024

- May 6 First day to file a declaration of candidacy.
- May 10 Last day to file a declaration of candidacy.
- May 13 Final day to withdraw from the ballot.
- May 21 Deadline for candidates to submit Voters' Pamphlet profiles.

Primary Voting Calendar, 2024

- July 19 Start of 18-day voting period (through Election Day). Ballots are mailed out and Accessible Voting Units (AVUs) are available at voting centers.
- July 29 Online and mail registrations must be received 8 days before Election Day. Register to vote in person during business hours and any time before 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- August 6 Deadline for Washington State voter registration or updates (in person only).

- August 6 Primary - Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

General Election Calendar, 2024

- October 18 Start of 18-day voting period (through Election Day). Ballots are mailed out and Accessible Voting Units (AVUs) are available at voting centers.
- October 28 Online and mail registrations must be received 8 days before Election Day. Register to vote in person during business hours and any time before 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- November 5 Deadline for Washington State voter registration or updates (in person only).
- November 5 General Election - Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Lake Washington Institute of Technology is a public 4-year institution and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2023. Our institution is designated as the following: Minority-Serving Institution, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution.

Election Programs Goals

LWTech has authorized the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) and will receive campus voting data for the 2024 election in fall 2025. Our NSLVE authorization runs through 2033.

LWTech's nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

Short-Term Goals

1. Plan fall quarter 2024 campus activities to include active and passive engagement strategies.
2. Report number of voters registered to develop actionable metrics for future years.
3. Build long term elections and voter register goals for future years.
4. Increase social media presences of voter registration deadline dates on the student body Instagram account @lwtechstudents.

Specific Outcomes

- Have students register to vote by October 2024
- Aim to have 20 students registered at the voter registration event (currently we managed to have 4 students have registered at the voter registration table in last week)
- Raise awareness in future voters (advertise through high school programs)
- Host events to discuss current social issues
 - Inflation and gas prices
 - Job that pays a living wage
 - High educational cost and lack of resources
 - High medical costs
 - Abortion and reproductive healthcare
 - Immigration issues

Strategies

Lake Washington Institute of Technology will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

Short-Term and Long-Term / Inside and Outside of The Classroom Strategies

- Promote voter registration during new student orientation for the fall quarter or at the ASG table during ROAR week.
- Send an email to all students.
- Focus on students in the age range of 16-25 who are U.S. citizens.
- Encourage Running Start students to sign up as future voters.
- Work with the Office of Student Life Design team to create election stickers and posters.
- Handout United States Constitutions.
- Put posters near the High School Programs Office and the East Building.
- Partner with the League of Women Voters to leverage their expertise and extend an invitation for them to visit our campus, engaging students through activities like hosting guest speakers or facilitating panel discussions focused on nonpartisan democratic involvement. Additionally, consider inviting experts, community leaders, or political figures to provide insights and address questions from students.
- Get clubs involved by collaborating with student organizations and other academic departments on campus.
- Contact Phi Theta Kappa honor society through the Office of Student Life Advisor, Julie Ta.
- Use word of mouth to spread the message.

Events during National Voter Education Week:

- Voter Registration Table – May 23, 2024 & some time in Fall quarter
- ASG table during ROAR week
- National Voter Registration Day – September 17, 2024
- National Voter Education Week – October 7-11, 2024
- Vote Early Day – October 29, 2024

Evaluation

ASG will evaluate our action plan in the following ways.

1. The ASG E-board will evaluate whether we have met our goals after Election Day.
2. Since this is our first time submitting the ALL-IN action plan, we will create a template for the next term to make it easier for future ASG members to develop their action plans.
3. Lake Washington Institute of Technology will use the National, Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement to evaluate the increase of student voting by comparing our campus voter turnout and voter registration rates to past elections to measure progress on increasing both.

Reporting

- ASG Representative for Marketing and Communications will create a report and report to the campus community by posting on the college website, social media, etc.
- Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website <https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/lake-washington-institute-of-technology>
- Our institution has given ALL IN permission to publish our past NSLVE reports, which can also be found on our campus page above
- Post NSLVE information on campus and college website

