



Lemoore College 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Giselle Simon

Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Lemoore College (LC) in California for the 2024 election. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 election. The goals for Lemoore College for the 2024 election are:

1. Increase student voter registration rate to 60% in 2024 Presidential Election
2. Increase student voting rate to 50% in 2024 Presidential Election
3. Increase voter awareness and outcomes among those ages 18–24

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

James Preston, College President
Parveen Kaler, Coordinator of Student Activities
Giselle Simon, Counselor & Phi Theta Kappa Advisor
Austin Minter, Political Science Faculty
Rene Paredes, History Faculty
Phi Theta Kappa – Beta Phi Lambda Chapter
LC Associated Student Government
Kings County Elections
Valley Voices

Commitment:

Lemoore College demonstrates and communicates its commitment to non-partisan democratic engagement to the campus community through several key channels and practices. The College's mission statement articulates a broader vision of preparing students to contribute positively to society. By emphasizing the development of well-rounded individuals who are informed and responsible citizens, the mission inherently supports democratic engagement. This vision is regularly highlighted in official communications, such as the College's website, strategic plans, promotional materials with a tag line of "Flex Your Future" reinforcing the importance of civic responsibility among students. The College integrates democratic engagement into its educational programs by offering courses that cover civic education, political science, and social issues. Faculty members are encouraged to weave discussions about democratic principles, civic responsibilities, and current events into their teaching.

This curriculum design ensures that students are not only educated about democratic processes but also understand how to engage with them effectively. The emphasis on learning outcomes such as critical thinking, effective communication, and informed decision-making communicates the College's commitment to democratic engagement. These outcomes are communicated through syllabi, academic advising, and student orientation programs, ensuring that students understand the value of these skills in the context of participating in a democratic society. Co-curricular activities play a significant role in promoting democratic engagement. Associate Student Government, Phi Theta Kappa Chapter, and other clubs and organizations provide students with practical experiences in governance and public discourse. The College actively promotes these activities through campus announcements, student community announcements, and event postings, encouraging student participation and highlighting their role in fostering democratic practices. The College fosters a culture that values open dialogue and diverse perspectives. This is communicated through various forums, including town hall meetings, panel discussions, and guest lectures that address political and social issues from multiple viewpoints. The College's communication channels, such as social media and campus publications, frequently showcase these events and the active involvement of students and faculty in democratic engagement. In summary, Lemoore College demonstrates and communicates its commitment to non-partisan democratic engagement through its mission statement, educational programs, learning outcomes, co-curricular activities, and overall campus culture. By embedding these principles into various aspects of campus life, the college ensures that democratic engagement is a visible and integral part of the student experience.

This is the first action plan that Lemoore College has developed for ALL IN which will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Additionally, the College President has signed the ALL IN Higher Education Commitment.

Landscape:

Lemoore College is a public 2-year community college and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2024. Current enrollment is at 4,590 students with about 3,674 that are 18 and over. Below are some of the demographics and voting data from Lemoore College's Campus Report from the National Study of Learning, Voting, & Engagement (NSLVE, 2024).

- In 2022, the registration rate of voting eligible students was 57.6% (LC-1)
- In 2022, the voting rate of registered students was 30.1% (LC-1)
- In 2022, the voting rate of registered students who voted on Election Day was 17.4% (LC-1)
- In 2022, the voting rates were highest for those ages 40 and over (LC-2)

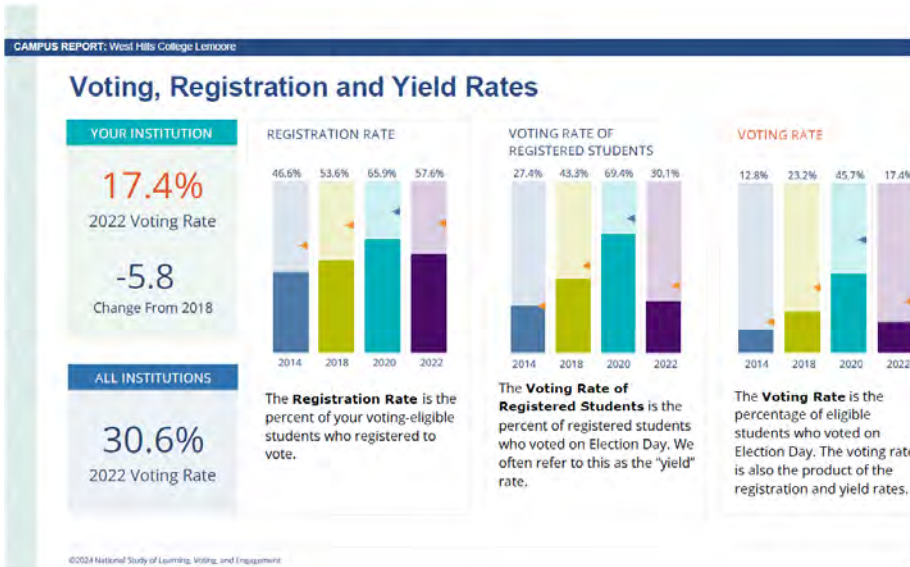


Image: LC – 1



Image: LC-2

For voters in Kings County, California, including those associated with Lemoore College, the following election laws are relevant:

Voter Registration: Voters must be U.S. citizens, residents of California, and at least 18 years old by Election Day. Registration can be completed online, by mail, or in person at various public offices. The deadline to register is 15 days before Election Day.

Voter ID Laws: California does not require voters to present ID at the polls if they are already registered. However, if a voter is asked to show ID, acceptable forms include a driver's license, state ID card, or other documents with the voter's name and address.

Vote-by-Mail (Absentee Ballots): All registered voters in California are eligible to vote by mail. To receive a mail-in ballot, voters must request one from their county elections office. Requests can typically be made starting 180 days before an election and up until 7 days before Election

Day. Ballots are mailed out approximately 29 days before the election, and voters can return their completed ballots by mail or drop them off at designated drop boxes or county elections offices.

2024 California General Election

- The last day to register to vote for the November 5, 2024, General Election is October 21, 2024.
- All California active registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot for the November 5, 2024, General Election.
- Your county elections office will begin mailing ballots by October 7, 2024.
- Ballot drop-off locations open on October 8, 2024.
- Vote-by-mail ballots can be returned by mail, at a drop-off location, or your county elections office.
- Vote centers open for early in-person voting in all Voter’s Choice Act counties beginning on October 26, 2024.
- Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by November 12, 2024.

Goals:

Lemoore College’s nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

4. Increase student voter registration rate to 60% in 2024 Presidential Election and 50% in 2026 Mid-Term Election
5. Increase student voting rate to 50% in 2024 Presidential Election and 25% in 2026 Mid-Term Election
6. Increase voter awareness and outcomes among those ages 18–24

Strategy:

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

1. Host Civic Holiday events on campus in partnership with Kings County Elections
 - a. Tuesday, September 17, 2024 – National Voter Registration Day
 - b. Tuesday, October 8, 2024 – National Voter Education Week (10/7 – 10/11/2024)
 - c. Tuesday, October 29, 2024 – Vote Early Day
2. Establish consistent messaging among faculty that encourages integration of civic engagement in the classroom
3. Generate co-curricular messaging and opportunities within student clubs and organizations to engage in the democratic process
4. Integrate intentional internal and external partnerships to promote awareness and activities that advance student equity related voter engagement

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

- Utilize NSLVE voting data and Civic Nation dashboard
- Survey full time and part time LC faculty over time to determine percentage that integrate civic engagement curricular content and outcomes, as well as those that embed the Lemoore College Voter Registration Portal in their syllabus
- Capture and assess participation in Civic Holiday events
- Identify at least one new internal or external partnership to advance equity related voter outcomes

Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website. In addition, LC will explore spaces on our campus website where the LC Voter Registration Portal and resources can exist.