

Linfield University 2024 Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Cassandra McKenna and Callie Nees

Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Linfield University in Oregon 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 Linfield University for the 2024 election are get students registered to vote, provide information on key deadlines for registration and voting, hosting voter engagement events.

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following:

Jeff Mackay - Vice President of Student Affairs

Cassandra McKenna - Executive Assistant for the VP of Student Affairs

Callie Nees- Director of Student Activities

Emma Campbell - ASLU President

Faith Sposito – ASLU Vice President

Commitment:

Linfield University has two student run group on campus. The College Democrats and The College Republicans groups (however our College Republicans is on a hiatus this semester) on campus that meet regularly at least once a month. Students feel comfortable identifying with one population or the other, the student population is engaged in conversation around politics. Linfield Political Science Department engages students by hosting events run and hosted by student work study members.

Linfield University has been a signatory to the Higher Education Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation since 2020.

Landscape:

Linfield University is a private 4-year institution and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2019.

Our campus demographic and voting data:

- Linfield University has 1,726 students. (Fall 2023)
- Linfield's first-time in college first years, full-time fall entry - first to second year retention, 80.6% (Fall 2022)
- 64% 'new majority' (Linfield-local definition: first gen, transfer, Pell recipient, or US student of color) (Fall 2022)
- 37% first generation (Fall 2022)
- 27% Pell recipients (Fall 2022)
- 23% historically underserved minorities (Fall 2022)
- 17.3% Latinx (Fall 2023)
- 36% Men (Fall 2023)
- 38% US students of color (Fall 2023)
- 18% began as transfer students (Fall 2022)
- 67% from Oregon (Fall 2023)

Linfield University has authorized NSLVE.

Our institution had a 2020 campus voting rate of 76.8%.

Our institution had a 2020 voter registration rate of 89.1%.

Our institution had a 2018 voter turnout rate of 51.4%.
Our institution had a 2018 voter registration rate of 82.7%.

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

Goals:

Our campus democratic engagement goals are:
Increase student voter turnout to 80% in 2024. And increase student voter registration rate to 92% in 2024.

Strategy:

Linfield University will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation:
Pizza and Politics events at least twice a month hosted by student lead Political Science team.
Student run voter registration booths on days and weeks leading up to elections, etc. Student government hosted watch parties for debates and gubernatorial forums.

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:
Monitoring event attendance and offering exit polls for engagement and knowledge growth.
Using NSLVE reports to inform future events.

Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website <https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/linfield-university/>.
Our institution has given ALL IN permission to publish our NSLVE reports which are posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website.
Our institution will also post the link to our campus page on ALL IN's website to our ASLU voter registration page and seek to have it posted in our Political Science Department Events page.
NSLVE reports will also be shared with the President's office and our ASLU leadership members.