

Napa Valley College, 2024-2026 Civic and Voter Empowerment Action Plan

Executive Summary:

Napa Valley College is committed to promoting civic engagement by presenting information to students about the importance of registering to vote during events on campus and educating those about the importance of voting during this year's presidential election as well as voting on propositions for the state of California.

This action plan will be implemented by holding events such as: The River Trail Village, our new student housing, Move-in Day, The Club Rush and partnering with our community organizations to provide opportunities for student voter information and registration.

We plan to use strategies such as media outreach, tabling events on campus, and in-person interactions to spread the message about what the Ballot Bowl is about, how to register to vote, and the importance of civic engagement behind it all.

Leadership:

The team responsible for developing the CVEAP are Ashley Hall and Cindy Gonzalez. We are leading the Ballot Bowl for our institution and are both students at Napa Valley College, on the board for Associated Students of Napa Valley College (ASNVC) which is our student government, and on the board for Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Ashley Hall has helped contribute to this by being available to table at all events, talking to students about the importance of voting and registering to vote, making flyers for campus events including the Ballot Bowl, and also posting on social media. Cindy Gonzalez has helped contribute to this by helping table for events and talking to students about the importance of voting and registering to vote.

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- Student Organizations: Associated Students of Napa Valley College (ASNVC), Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
- Faculty Members: Omar Peña – omar.pena@napavalley.edu, Student Services Specialist in the Office of Student Life. Omar has helped contribute to this by offering leadership and being available to answer any questions that we may have. He also has done a wonderful job at helping bridge communication between Napa Valley College and our community partners.
- Community partners: League of Women Voters of Napa County (LWVNC), Democratic Women, American Association of University Women
- Board of Trustees, Jennifer Baker, Ines de Luna

We have tabled 4 times since the semester started and at 3 different events, to help students register to vote and speak about the importance of voting and how it impacts our country, county, city, and state.

Landscape:

Napa Valley College is utilizing the website that allows us to see how many students from our college have registered to vote. We have QR codes with the proper links attached so that students can scan the code and register to vote from their cell phones, and we also have physical copies of voter registration cards that can be filled out and mailed in. Those have a code written on them that allows the state to see how many students from our college has registered to vote using the physical form.

Reflection:

We do not have much to reflect on since this is the first semester that Napa Valley College is participating in the Ballot Bowl, at least since I have been a student here. I can tell you that we plan on improving our strategies and plans for next semester. We are partnering with Student Life and student government on this and will continue to partner with them next semester as well.

Goals:

We do not have a long-term goal since most of us students will not be here within the next 5 years, but we do have a short-term goal of 2 years, and these are the events that we plan on having that will help us continue to spread the word about registering to vote and the importance of why students need to vote.

Fall 2024-Summer 2025

1. Ballot Bowl Kick Off and River Trail Village Move-In Day: Table Friday August 16th and Saturday August 17th. Encourage students to register to vote, handle out flyers with QR code that links students to proper voting registration websites, and introduce what the Ballot Bowl is.
2. Spirit Week Day 2: Table Wednesday September 4th. Re-introduce the Ballot Bowl and what our goals and objectives are for this academic year, encourage students to register to vote, and talk about the importance of voting.
3. Constitution Day and 2nd Day of Club Rush: Table Tuesday September 17th for Constitution Day. This is the day we would like to team up with the League of Women Voters and talk with students about propositions, voting, registering to vote, and provide both flyers with QR codes that link to proper voting websites, along with paper voter registration cards that they can fill out. We will also be tabling Wednesday September 18th for the 2nd day of Club Rush. This will allow us to not only connect with students who are interested in ASNVC, but also gives us the opportunity to further discuss the importance of registering to vote and answer any questions that may arise.
4. Proposition Pros and Cons Presentation by the League of Women Voters: October 10th at 12pm in the Community Room. This will be a great way for the League of Women Voters to interact with students on our campus and talk about the importance of voting and talk more about the propositions that will be on the ballot this year.

5. Spring events have not been ironed out yet, but there is a possibility for tabling at our Welcome Week event and also at Club Rush again for the Spring 2025 Semester.

Fall 2025-Summer 2026

1. Ballot Bowl Kick Off and Welcome Week: TBD. Encourage students to register to vote, hand out flyers with QR code that links to voting registration websites and introduce to new students what the Ballot Bowl is.
2. Club Rush: TBD. Connect with students and talk about the importance of registering to vote and answer any questions.
3. Spring events have not been ironed out yet, but there is a possibility for tabling at our Welcome Week event and also at Club Rush again for the Spring 2026 Semester.
4. Open to other events with the LWV. I need to speak with them when this time comes to iron out plans and details.

Event Requirements:

Fall 2024-Summer 2025 – 3 event requirement has been met

Fall 2025-Summer 2026 – 3 event requirement is still being planned, but plans have been started.