# Maricopa County Community College Voter Engagement Plan: Paradise Valley Community College





## **Overview**

ARS § 15-1895 requires each community college district, in consultation with the recognized student government at a community college under its jurisdiction, to adopt a plan to increase student voter registration and voting in elections that includes:

- Information about on-campus voter registration and voting opportunities made available in the following methods:
  - During new student orientation
  - In admissions packets
- Voter registration materials at central campus locations and high traffic areas
- Broad dissemination of information regarding:
  - Voter registration deadlines
  - Deadlines for delivering ballots by mail
- Links on institutional and administrative websites that detail the voter registration process
- Reasonable accommodations to county election officials for on-campus polling locations
- Encouragement to student government organizations to coordinate activities aimed at increasing voter registration and election turnout
- Policies to allow excused absence from classes for the purpose of voting
- Policies that prohibit the use of college resources and employees to influence elections
- An emphasis on efficiency and conservation of resources

The Maricopa County Community College District ("MCCCD") and its associated colleges, aim to implement various methods for informing students of, disseminating information, and promoting voter registration.

## **Voter Engagement Team**

The Paradise Valley Community College Plan was created by the following voter engagement team members:

- Administration and Faculty
  - Mike Ho, Student Life and Leadership, Student Services Manager
  - Sam Tea, Student Life and Leadership, Student Services Specialist

- Club Collaboration
  - PVCC Democracy Matters Club

Every election year prompts political activity in all sorts of venues, and MCCCD both respects and encourages participation in the time-honored tradition of political activity on American college and university campuses. With that in mind, each of the District's campuses has a plan consistent with the terms outlined in ARS § 15-1895 with the primary focus being to increase student voter registration and voting in elections.

By joining the All In Challenge, campuses commit to:

Increase student voting rates, help students form the habits of active and informed citizenship, and make democratic participation a core value on their campus. Convene a campus-wide committee that includes members from academic affairs, student affairs, and the student body, as well as any other relevant stakeholders. Develop and implement an action plan to improve democratic engagement. Participate in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) in order to measure student voter participation rates.

Share their campus' action plan and NSLVE results with the Challenge in order to be eligible for a recognition seal and/or award.

## Goals

- Increase student voter registration through events and projects through hosting tables to inform students the importance of voting and provide information regarding current elections
- 2. Scheduled community presentations such as workshops and/or candidate forums as opportunities become available

# **Voter Engagement Plan**

### **Voter Registration**

• New Student Registration/Orientation

Per the Campus Engagement Election Project:

"Orientation is a key transition experience for incoming students, introducing them to their campus community. It's also a point where they're all gathered together. As such, it is an ideal context to help your students register to vote and educate them on the electoral process. Here's how you can use orientation and the accompanying introductions to campus to do this."

Orientation Sessions will include information about voter registrations, to include a high-level administrator or student orientation leader to talk about the importance of registering and voting and give students an opportunity to register at school, or absentee if they prefer.

As New Student Orientations are scheduled in the computer labs and have gathering times before and afterwards, student leaders will be trained to guide students through the process of registration or updating of registrations using the online tools of Rock the Vote or TurboVote. Students can also download these same online tools onto their cell phones. Additionally, hardcopy Voter Registration forms will be distributed to all students at all orientations

## Voter Registration Forms Completed at Strategic Locations

Hardcopy Voter Registration Forms will be left at high traffic areas that all new students are expected to visit as part of the registration process. This includes the Welcome Desk, ID printing stations, and with all academic advisors.

## Club Advisor Training

Additionally, Club Advisors will be expected to assist the voter registration process. At Club Advisor Training in August, club advisors will be encouraged to create at least one voter registration/voter education event for their club members. Also Club Advisors will be provided with Voter Registration Forms, to be distributed at club meetings.

#### Online Outreach

Using the CANVAS Learning Management System, Instructors will be given text to include in their course syllabus, which includes registration deadlines, including links to the RockThe Vote, Turbovote, or state voter registration sites.

#### **Voter Education**

## Constitution Day – Mid September

During Constitution Day Activities, The Office of Student Life and Leadership will distribute pocket constitutions and host an information table to administer a constitution day quiz. Participants with the most correct answers will receive a prize.

## Student Public Policy Forum Recruitment

During the second week of the academic year, as part of the recruitment efforts of the Student Public Policy Forum, Student Life and Leadership will host civic engagement workshops, to both educate the student body and generate interest in the SPPF program.

#### Voter Education YouTube Contest

Students will submit videos on why voting matters. The winning video will be presented on TVs in the Student Union.

#### Online Resources for Evening or Online Students

Website links and information provided on a dedicated Voter Education Webpage, to be updated regularly, to include: The Secretary of State, the County Recorder, Clean Elections Arizona and WeVote.

## 2022 Action Plan

### **Engagement Event 1**

- \*\* February 2022: Host event that educates on Voter Registration and Civic Engagement.
  - Holidays/Observances during February that we could incorporate into events.
    - o Black History Month (all month)
    - o 14th Arizona's Birthday and Valentine's Day

## **Engagement Event 2**

\*\* March 2022: Event that educates on Voter Registration and Civic Engagement.

## **Potential Support:**

\*\* Student Public Policy Forum: Students that are in SPPF are required to do Campus Project for their course. Student Life will partner with SPPF Students (If students choose to take this on as their Campus Project).

Host table at Welcome Week (or any time before the Census) to talk about Voter Registration, and Chancellor's Civic Medallion (civic engagement).

Advising

Financial Aid

#### Important Dates/Events:

At least one event per month while school is in session.

## Ways to educate students until events:

Encouraging Faculty and Adjunct to show these videos to their classes during syllabus week or offer this as an extra credit assignment.

Two Educational Video Options:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eq-FMB4epyw

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXZAe8XYeNQ

Send out email to educate all faculty, adjunct and staff in hope they will educate students. Print out flyers to hand out to each student they help? (Financial Aid, and Advising)

Start #CountMeInChallenge.

#### Ask Me Table at

- Welcome Week 1/18 1/20
- Club Rush 1/24 1/27
- Community and Vendor Fair TBD
- Food Distributions
  - o February 3rd
  - o March 3rd
  - o April 7th
  - o May 5th
- Voter Engagement Event 02/XX/2022
- Voter Engagement Events 03/XX/2022
- Puma Palooza 3/30
- Club Advisors & Club Officers

## Resources

## **Estimated Budget**

• \$1000 per semester provided by the Office of Student Life and Leadership for up to 3 workshops per semester.

#### Materials

 Voter Registration Forms, Voter Engagement Publicity provided by Rock the Vote, The Southern Poverty Law Center, and Next Gen America.

## Support

- Maricopa Community Colleges Office of Community Engagement
- Assessment of Learning Team
- Maricopa County Recorder's Office
- Student Clubs and Organizations

## **Assessment**

Paradise Valley Community College has created General Education Assessments to be used in curricular and co-curricular events. A Civic Engagement Rubric was developed by the Assessment of Learning Team with the following learning outcomes identified:

<sup>\*\* =</sup> Please note event days/dates are tentative.

- 1. The student will be able to summarize how civic engagement activities impact thoughts, feelings, and/or behavior related to perceived role in the community.
- 2. The student will be able to describe ethical issues and consider the various implications.
- 3. The student will be able to show evidence of fairness by providing a clear unbiased description of multiple points of view.
- 4. The student will be able to explain what it would be like to think and feel as other people do.
- 5. The student will be able to explain how actions can affect social, environmental, and/or economic aspects of the community now and in the future.
- 6. The student will be able to provide specific steps that lead to sustainability.
- 7. The student will be able to analyze how public policy, political systems, government, or historical events impact social, environmental, and/or economic aspects of the community.
- 8. The student will be able to explain how course content can be applied to civic engagement activities.
- 9. The student will be able to explain how civic engagement activities and coursework together lead to a high level of learning.

The PVCC Civic Engagement Assessment will be administered post event and responses scored using the Civic Engagement Rubric.