



**Prince George's Community College
2021 – 2022**

All In Campus Challenge Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Point of Contact for Designation Process

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Overview:

Prince George's Community College serves a diverse population of more than 40,000 students representing 103 countries throughout the world. The College offers more than 200 academic and workforce development and continuing education programs of study, and transfer and scholarship opportunities to four-year colleges and universities. Students can earn associate degrees, certificates, letters of recognition, and licensures.

The coordinated efforts for civic engagement and preparing students for lives of engaged citizenship is supportive of the College's goals of student success, regional impact, and organizational excellence. In compliance with the Federal Higher Education Act, Prince George's Community College has been promoting voter registration in various ways: the public-facing website and student portal site, social media, and in-person voter registration drives. The College is a participant in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) study. The College also created a Civic Action Committee in 2018. The college has established partnerships with various organizations and groups including, Student Learn, Student Vote Coalition, National Voter Registration Day, National Voter Education Week, the Greater Washington Urban League Young Professional: Thursday Network and the local Prince George's County League of Women.

Campus Leadership Team:

Our All-in Democracy Challenge Civic Action team chaired by the Program Director of Student Engagement & Leadership consists of faculty, staff and students, including the Student Governance Association and the representatives from the Student Publications Board. The primary charge of this team is to develop informed voters, remove barriers to student voting, and support student activism and leadership.

Planned Voter Engagement Activities:

Voter Registration

To ensure that students, faculty and staff have all of the information they need to be able to vote in the Primary and General election and beyond, the following voter registration programs were planned:

New Student Convocation & Resource Fair: Voter Registration Drives will be conducted at our New Student Convocation in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022.

Week of Welcome Activities: During the first two weeks of classes in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022, voter registration forms will be made available for students to register to vote.

Constitution Day: On September 17, 2019, voter registration forms were made available throughout the day at two of the College's degree and extension centers.

National Voter Registration Day Drive: As a National Voter Registration Day partner, the Student Governance Association hosted two virtual Voter Registration Drive Volunteers training with the Board of Elections and in-person voter registration drives on campus throughout the day. Students participated in an Instagram Live Vote Coming broadcast and a Voter Protection Training.

All In To Vote Voter Registration Portal: The College will be one of the institutions to pilot this portal to conduct online voter registration on a secure site and to make it more accessible for students to vote while the college is operating in a hybrid modality.

Student Involvement Club Fair: During the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 Club Fairs, the Student Governance Association (SGA) and representatives from 4You2Vote had voter registration forms available.

Voting Pledge Drive: SGA organized a #PGCCCommitToVote Pledge Drive to increase student voter registration and voting rates.

Party to the Polls: Student Engagement & Leadership and the SGA will rent party shuttles to transport students to the Wayne K. Curry Sports & Learning Center polls during the early voting periods.

Voter Education

Voter Registration Volunteers Certification: The SGA will invite trainers from the Board of Elections throughout the academic year to conduct Certified Voter Registration Volunteers training at the college for students and employees and for renewal of expired certification.

President's Weekly Message: Throughout the academic year, information about various voter education and registration initiatives will be highlighted by the College president in news brief to the college community.

Civic Engagement Conference and Webinars: Representatives from our All in Democracy Challenge Civic Action team, including student leaders will participate in webinars to learn strategies for enhancing voter engagement and civic action on campus.

Voter Education Week Forum: We will host several open forums on campus to raise the political IQ of students and promote critical thinking about engagement in the electoral process.

Student Advocacy Day: Students leaders participated in Student Advocacy training in Spring 2021 and Spring 2022 to learn tips on how to lobby elected officials, including how to prepare an advocacy pitch and letter to advocate for funding and legislative bills that will benefit community college students. In Spring 2021, fifteen students recorded advocacy videos and wrote letters that were sent to state legislatures.

Civic Dialogue Series: The All in Democracy Challenge Civic Action team will organize a series to explore “Why the 2022 Election Matters”, which will explore the following topics:

- Guidelines for voting in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.
- The impact of college student voters
- The increasing political power and influence of people of color and women in election outcomes
- Are You Ballot Ready? Provide an overview of the referendums, elected positions and candidates on the ballot.

Guest Speakers: Local and national speakers that will invited to the college community on issues of voter suppression, voter engagement, and issues impacting the political races locally and nationally.

Election and Social Media Campaigns: Links to the Board of Elections, and the League of Women Voter Education guide, as well as instructional videos about the do’s and don’ts of voting by mail will be provided on the College’s website, social media platforms and mass emails to connect students to information about voting, and the candidates.

#YourVoteYourVoice Social Media Campaign: Students will be asked to create 30 seconds PSA videos about the importance of voting and they will be posted on the SGA’s social media platforms.

To promote civic learning and political engagement, the following curricular initiatives are offered:

Voter education, political literacy and critical thinking about democracy are taught in Political Science classes. Specifically, POS 1010 (American National Government) and POS 1000 (Introduction to Politics) heavily focus on civic engagement and political literacy. POS 1020, State and Local Politics, does so as well, focusing on state and local politics.