

# SUNY Broome Community College 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

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#### **Executive Summary:**

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by SUNY Broome Community College in New York 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 SUNY Broome Community College for the 2024 election are:

## Leadership:

Our leadership team including a collaboration with Binghamton University and Broome County includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

Dr. Linda Biemer – Chair of Voter Engagement Committee (Community Volunteer) Dr. Nick Kocieniewski – Director of Student Activities at SUNY Broome Tom Margnarelli – Director of Radio at WSKG Pheobe Taylor-Vuolo – WSKG New Reporter for Binghamton Area Sharon Exley – Town of Dickinson Board Member Dr. Allison Handy Twang – Director of the Center for Civic Engagement at Binghamton University Margaret Goodfellow – League of Women Voters Gervlyne Auguste – The Deltas of the Appalachian Alumnae Association Hiba Khan – SUNY Broome Student Assembly Trustee

#### **Commitment:**

SUNY Broome Community College has previously had a signatory to the ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation as recently as 2020 before a recent senior

leadership transition. The new president, Dr. Tony Hawkins has signed the commitment in 2024 reaffirming out commitment to voter engagement.

The SUNY Broome Strategic Plan includes a goal for Civic, Community Engagement, and Service Learning. This goal included the objectives of developing and sustaining strategic partnerships to foster civic discourse and engagement, and providing opportunities and access to civic learning activities that positively influence students' lives and their communities.

The Civic Engagement Board has a sub-committee for voter engagement that includes members from Binghamton University,

#### Landscape:

SUNY Broome Community College is a public community college and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2020. Our institution is designated as the following: Predominantly White Institution, Rural Serving Institution.

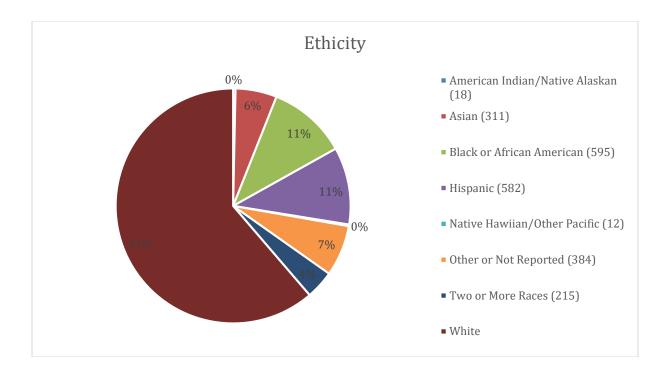
Our campus demographic and voting data:

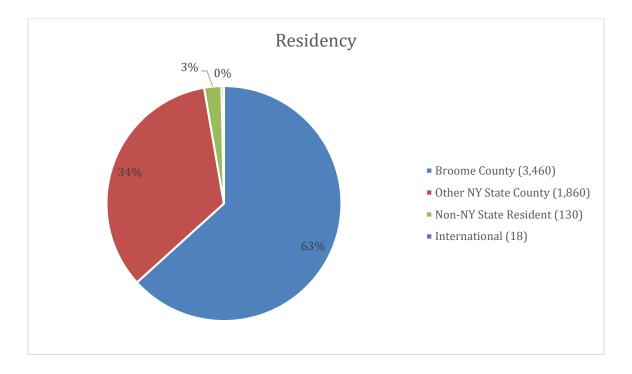
SUNY Broome Community College has 5,468 enrolled students (reporting from fall 2023). Of the enrolled students:

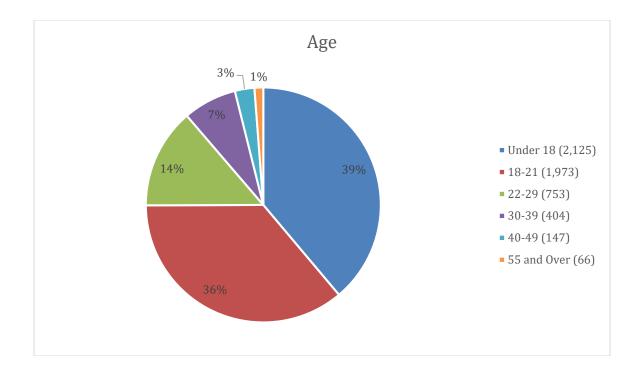
- 3,211 (59.9%) are enrolled in degree programs
- 2,462 (45.0%) are enrolled full-time.
- 3,006 (55.0%) are enrolled part-time.
- 1,913 (35.0%) are returning students.
- 1,156 (21.1%) are new first-time students
- 289 (5.3%) are transfer students.
- 1,1983 (36.3%) are Fast Forward Students
- 30 (0.5%) are Early College Students
- 97 (1.8%) are non-matriculated.

SUNY Broome has online, off-site, residential, and commuting students. One residence hall (The Student Village at SUNY Broome) is on campus with approximately 300 bed availability. The Student Village is not owned by the college.

The demographic breakdown of SUNY Broome is as follows:







SUNY Broome Community College has authorized the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) and will receive campus voting data for the 2022 election in fall 2023. However, our NSLVE authorization expires in 2023 and our institution will need to reauthorize NSLVE to receive campus voting data for the 2024 election and beyond. The reauthorization has been sent to the Registrar's Office for review.

Data from the 2022 NSLVE is still being finalized and has not been shared with SUNY Broome.

#### Voter Laws that Affect SUNY Broome

In New York, beginning January 1, 2024, any registered voter may vote by mail without an excuse. Applications must be received by the board of elections no later than October 26, 2024 to be eligible to vote by mail in the General Election.

New York offers online voter registration. Voter registration applications must be completed by October 26, 2024 to vote in the November 5<sup>th</sup> election.

Residents of the Student Village may register with the Student Village as their voting address for the November 5, 2024 election.

| October 26, 2024 | General election early voting starts<br>General election deadline to submit voter registration to board of<br>elections |
|------------------|---|
|                  | General election deadline to request a mail-in ballot online or by mail.  |
| November 3, 2024 | Last day of early voting in general election.   |

November 4, 2024 November 5, 2024 General election deadline to request mail-in ballot in person. General election. General election deadline to postmark mail-in ballot.

SUNY Broome Community College participates in the following initiatives to support the development and implementation of our nonpartisan democratic engagement efforts on campus: ALL IN's Community of Practice for Community Colleges; National Voter Registration Day (2018, 2020)

#### Goals:

Our institution's nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

- Increase the voter turnout rate from the national average for 2020 public 2-year schools of 57% to 65% before the 2024 election.
- Register at least 80% of the Student Village residents to vote as Binghamton Residents or have them request absentee ballots for the 2024 general election.
- Review voter registration to new student orientation for fall of 2024

#### Strategy:

SUNY Broome Community College will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

Voter registration information will be discussed during New Student Orientation during the summer of 2024. Voter registration forms will be brought for those interested.

Voter registration information will be available at move-in day for the Student Village. We aim to have computers available for online voter registration and absentee ballot requests. We will also have paper registration forms and absentee ballot requests and offer to pay for postage. This will be on August 24, 2024.

We will have Voter Registration tabling during the first week of classes in the Student Center lobby on campus, right outside the dining venue. We will again have computers and paper applications available.

A table will be present at the Student Club Fair taking place on Thursday, September 5, 2024 with the same resources for students.

SUNY Broome will be participating in the National Voter Registration Day on September 17, 2024. We are planning to have giveaways and free food available while giving students resources about voter engagement, registration, and requesting absentee ballots.

We will also plan to host debate viewing parties with incentives for attending such as free food or giveaway items.

### Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

SUNY Broome Community College will use the National, Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement to evaluate the increase of student voting by comparing our campus voter turnout and voter registration rates to past elections to measure progress on increasing both.

We will track attendance at engagement events to see total attendance and individual attendance. The aim is that we can get a diverse population of attendees and to have students participate in more than one of our engagement opportunities.

We will also utilize surveys for student satisfaction for events to see if students felt engaged and if they enjoyed the events or not.

#### Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/suny-broome-community-college/.

Our institution has given ALL IN permission to publish our past NSLVE reports, which can also be found on our campus page above.

The data collected will be shared with the Executive Council of SUNY Broome and the Civic Engagement Board.