



University of Cincinnati-Blue Ash College 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Aleia White

Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by the Office of Student Life at the University of Cincinnati-Blue Ash College in Ohio. This action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement along with student voter registration, education, and turnout for the 2024 election. Led by the Director of Student Life, this plan will begin in the summer of 2024 and conclude in January of 2025.

The goals for the University of Cincinnati-Blue Ash College are:

- 1) Uniting organizations and growing partnerships within UC Blue Ash to increase the student voter registration rate and a student voting rate in the fall of 2024.
 - a. This will be accomplished through tabling during high-traffic class times; and
 - b. Training the Student Ambassadors on how to register students to vote.
- 2) Facilitate voter registration during new student orientation and campus-wide events.
 - a. This will be accomplished by having voter registration available at the Student Life table during new student orientation; and
 - b. Having voter registration available during all campus-wide events such as Welcome Week, Involvement Fest, Homecoming Pep Rally, etc.
- 3) Facilitate high-quality voter education experiences through our Student Leadership Development Institute, led by our Associate Director of Student Life, that prepares students to make informed voting decisions.

This plan centers around 3 primary action areas: voter registration, voter education, and ballot access.

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Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

Aleia White- Director of Student Life
Chris Dziekan – Associate Director of Student Life
VACANT – Program Coordinator of Student Life
Student Ambassador Program
UC Blue Ash Student Government Tribunal

The leadership is being led by the Office of Student Life with hopes of bringing in additional campus organizations, offices, and academic departments. A Student Ambassador will have a leadership role solely focused on voter education and registration. The Associate Director of Student Life will be implementing sessions on how to make informed voting decisions and have civil discussions on difficult topics. All campus-wide events will also include the opportunity for students to register to vote.

Commitment:

The University of Cincinnati-Blue Ash serves the people of Ohio, the nation, and the world as a premier, public, urban research university dedicated to undergraduate, graduate, and professional education, experience-based learning, and research. We are committed to excellence and diversity in our students, faculty, staff, and all our activities. We provide an inclusive environment where innovation and freedom of intellectual inquiry flourish. Through scholarship, service, partnerships, and leadership, we create opportunity, develop educated and engaged citizens, enhance the economy, and enrich our university, city, state, and global community. Part of being an engaged citizen is exercising one's responsibility to vote. For this reason, the Student Life Department at UC Blue Ash has joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge-- a democratic engagement program that aims to register students to vote, educate students on the issues, ensure ballot access, and get out the student vote. We are committed to providing students with the necessary information and materials needed to vote in every local, state, and federal election.

Landscape:

University of Cincinnati Blue Ash College (UCBA) is a public regional college that offers a majority of two-year associate degrees and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2024. UCBA offers one of the best values in higher education with access to a nationally recognized UC education in more than 50 degrees and certificates, as well as tuition that is about half of most colleges and universities in the state. The college is on a 135-acre wooded campus in the heart of Blue Ash, Ohio.

It is our understanding based on communications from the Ohio Secretary of State's office that Ohio's online voter registration system validates address information with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles' database. As a result, University of Cincinnati students who wish to register to vote using their campus addresses are encouraged to register to vote using a paper voter registration form. Additionally, we allow students who live on campus to self-print voter identification information via an internal system called Catalyst. There has been a great deal of confusion around political redistricting in Ohio. Since January of 2022, the Ohio Supreme Court has concluded multiple times that the political maps drawn by the Ohio Election Commission and approved by the Ohio Legislature are unconstitutional. According to their rulings, the maps

unduly favor the Republican Party and disfavor the Democratic Party. As a result, elections for State Senators and State Representatives were not included in Ohio's Primary Election in May of 2022. For 2024, the Presidential Primary Date is March 19, 2024 in Ohio. The 2024 Election Day will be held on Tuesday, November 5. While Election Day is on November 5, the Electoral College votes are not cast until December. It takes 270 electoral votes out of a possible 538 to win the presidential election.

Electors meet on the first Tuesday after the second Wednesday in December to cast their votes for President and Vice President of the United States.

Our campus demographic and voting data:

Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
American Indian or Alaska Nati..	65 (0.1%)	51 (0.1%)	47 (0.1%)	64 (0.1%)	65 (0.1%)
Asian	1,999 (4.3%)	2,197 (4.7%)	2,330 (5.0%)	2,449 (5.1%)	2,698 (5.3%)
Black or African American	3,771 (8.1%)	3,850 (8.2%)	3,851 (8.2%)	4,176 (8.7%)	4,753 (9.3%)
Hispanic/Latina	1,815 (3.9%)	1,916 (4.1%)	2,019 (4.3%)	2,218 (4.6%)	2,566 (5.0%)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacif..	25 (0.1%)	25 (0.1%)	28 (0.1%)	32 (0.1%)	44 (0.1%)
Nonresident	3,500 (7.5%)	3,015 (6.4%)	3,633 (7.8%)	4,251 (8.9%)	4,899 (9.5%)
Race/Ethnicity Unknown	1,167 (2.5%)	1,408 (3.0%)	1,513 (3.2%)	1,007 (2.1%)	724 (1.4%)
Two or More Races	1,662 (3.6%)	1,799 (3.8%)	1,832 (3.9%)	1,929 (4.0%)	2,117 (4.2%)
White	32,384 (69.8%)	32,537 (69.5%)	31,457 (67.3%)	31,788 (66.3%)	33,055 (64.9%)
Grand Total	46,388 (100.0%)	46,798 (100.0%)	46,710 (100.0%)	47,914 (100.0%)	50,921 (100.0%)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
URM	7,338 (17.6%)	7,641 (18.0%)	7,777 (18.7%)	8,419 (19.7%)	9,545 (21.1%)

Underrepresented Minorities (URM) includes American Indian or Alaska Native, Black or African American, Hispanic, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Two or More Races.
Academic Career is based on Career field in CaRT. Last updated 9/21/2023

Our institution has 4,275 students.

Gender and Residency Tables

Female	Male	Unknown
28,021 (55.0%)	22,851 (44.9%)	49 (0.1%)
URM	Not URM	
9,545 (21.1%)	35,253 (78.9%)	
International	Domestic	
4,899 (9.6%)	46,022 (90.4%)	
Out-of-State	In-State	
15,576 (30.6%)	35,345 (69.4%)	

Underrepresented Minorities (URM) includes American Indian or Alaska Native, Black or African American, Hispanic, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Two or More Races. Percentage is calculated by dividing URM students by total students, excluding Nonresident Alien and Unknown students. Nonresident Alien and Unknown students excluded from URM/Non-URM calculations.

Student Voting Data (from NSLVE): The University of Cincinnati Blue Ash recently joined the NSLVE study, so we currently do not have voting data for previous elections. By participating in NSLVE, we will be able to track our student voting rates over time and make data-informed decisions regarding new democratic engagement programming. We are particularly interested in reviewing our student voter registration rates and our student voting rates by age, major, gender, and race so that we can be more intentional about facilitating activities for underrepresented groups of students.

Goals:

We have three primary goals for the 2024-2025 academic year. Our institution's nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

- 1) Uniting organizations and growing partnerships within UC Blue Ash to increase the student voter registration rate and a student voting rate in the fall of 2024.
- 2) Facilitate voter registration during new student orientation and campus-wide events.
- 3) Facilitate high-quality voter education experiences through our Student Leadership Development Institute, led by our Associate Director of Student Life, that prepares students to make informed voting decisions.

Strategy:

University of Cincinnati Blue Ash College will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

Throughout the 2024-2025 academic school year, the programs and events below will help to register students to vote, educate students on relevant voting issues, and ensure ballot access.

1. Voter registration:
 - a. Includes the opportunity to register to vote at orientations, first year experience classes, and any major campus events.
 - b. Create flyers and informational posters about voter registration to be displayed around the campus.
 - c. Facilitate voter registration tabling events such as National Voter Registration Day and Last-Minute Voter Registration Days.
2. Voter Education
 - a. Distribute nonpartisan voter registration guides from the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area and other nonpartisan groups.
 - b. Encourage students to attend and watch political debates.
 - c. Celebrate Constitution Day with the Constitution Day Citizenship Challenge
 - d. Add voter education information to Thursday Announcements and other email distributions.
3. Ballot Access
 - a. Facilitate Absentee Ballot Request Days
 - b. Promote Vote Early Day
 - c. Continue to have Election Day be a no class day to allow students to vote.

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

The University of Cincinnati Blue Ash intends to collect feedback on this plan by reviewing our NSLVE Report to see if our 60% voter registration was met, as well as the 40% turnout was met.

We will also collect data from all events to see how many students we are reaching and whether they register to vote or not.

Finally, we will collect feedback from students on their perception of the education surrounding voting and access to information surrounding voting.

Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website here - <https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/university-of-cincinnati-blue-ash-college/>.

We will share our NSLVE reports and the action plan with the campus community including students, staff, faculty, and leadership through email announcements.