

University of Oregon
ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge
2024-2025 Action Plan

The University of Oregon has a longstanding tradition of leadership in registering students to vote and participate in elections. It is regularly a point of pride for student leadership. Our participation in the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge and the Big Ten Voter Challenge is a catalyst for improving communication and coordination of these efforts as we continue the momentum from past election cycles.

Key dates and considerations

- October 15, 2024 – Last day to register to vote in Oregon
- October 16, 2024 – First day to mail ballots to Oregon voters.
- October 22, 2024 – Last day to mail ballots to Oregon voters.
- October 31, 2024 – Last day absentee or replacement ballots are required to be mailed to Oregon voters.
- November 5, 2024 – Election Day

Those registered in other states are directed to ALLINtoVote.org and other voter engagement online resources for key dates. The Holden Center also works to provide ballot information for the most common out-of-state students (California, Washington, etc.)

The state of Oregon allows on-line voter registration for individuals with certain forms of identification or people may register in person at county elections offices. Voting occurs by mail (no stamp required), or at county ballot drop sites. A ballot drop box is located on the University of Oregon campus at the student union. All ballots must be deposited in an official box or postmarked by 8 p.m. election day. Ballots postmarked by Election Day are considered on time as long as they arrive at the elections office up to 7 days after the election.

The University of Oregon allows student groups to deliver non-partisan voter registration and get-out-the-vote announcements during the first ten minutes in certain classes, a key tool for civic engagement. In addition, a register to vote link to is displayed in multiple online locations, including:

- [ASUO Student Government Website](#)
- Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships [Consumer Information page](#)
- UO Government and Community Relations [register to vote page](#)
- [Holden Center for Leadership and Community Engagement](#) civic engagement page
- Distribution to residence hall students in the Housing newsletter

Information is disseminated directly to students through Quick Quack, a student-facing portal for university information, and through multiple social media channels.

People involved/outreach strategies:

Liaisons to [Big Ten Voting Challenge](#):

- Karen Hyatt - Director of Intergovernmental Relations, Office of Government & Community Relations, is serving as administrative co-lead and liaison to the President's Office.

- New Coordinator for Community Engagement TBD/Melissa Yamamoto, Director – The Holden Center for Leadership and Community Engagement, Office of Dean of Students, is serving as administrative co-lead and oversees the Civic Engagement Committee. Until the new Coordinator is hired, Melissa Yamamoto, Director of the Holden Center is filling in.

Campus democratic engagement coalition: Student groups and campus organizations across campus are involved in voter and civic engagement. We re-launched the Civic and Voter Engagement Working Group this year, which pulls together many of these partners into one space. These are just some of the partners who are communicating frequently, promoting voter engagement via a variety of communications methods, organizing events, and sponsoring activities:

- **Holden Center for Leadership and Community Engagement:** The Holden Center has established a commitment to deeply embedding civic and voter engagement as a pillar of the programming and initiatives offered and is working to collaborate closely with other entities. The Civic Engagement Committee (made up of student staff employees and one pro-staff), and two Civic Engagement Program Assistants continue efforts including:
 - Pizza and Politics – casual dialogue/discussion spaces where students can engage in conversation, learn about social issue areas or topics, get informed on upcoming ballots, and gain skills in how to have conversations across difference – 2x per term
 - Big 10 Voter Challenge– The Coordinator for Community Engagement (in partnership with UO’s Director of Intergovernmental Relations) provides leadership in convening group meetings and identifying content.
 - Education and Outreach – developed social media series around 4 types of civic engagement, consistently getting out more digestible and relatable information for ballots and elections.
 - Civic Engagement as Activism workshop – offered upon request – demonstrates different types of civic engagement and engages students specifically on how they or their student group can be more intentional about improving civic engagement within their organization, as well as on campus.
 - Tabling – student employees staff a table to share information about how to register, important dates, and where to find ballot information
 - Vote Early Day: The Holden Center for Leadership and Community Engagement utilizes the Voting Early Day social media campaign and encourages students to get registered and vote early.
- **Assessment and Research (In the Vice President for Student Life’s office):** we are partnering with our assessment colleagues to understand NSLVE data and institutional information clearly and work together strategically on next steps in terms of targeted outreach efforts.
- **ASUO (Associated Students of the University of Oregon student government)** is connecting student groups and communicating through social media and their website the importance of voter registration and participation. They also have sent out emails to all students encouraging them to vote and be informed voters.
- **Athletics/BEOREGON:** Through BEOREGON, student-athletes and coaches are prioritizing voter engagement. In 2020 and with support from OSPIRG they created the Keep It 100 initiative, a call to action for all eligible Ducks (student-athletes, coaches, staff and the larger Duck community) to

utilize their right to vote and be committed to 100% participation in voter registration and make a lifetime pledge to “Keep It 100” in their individual stand against racism and hatred.

- **Division of Equity and Inclusion (DEI):** DEI is committed to ensuring the voter participation experience is complemented with a culture of civility and education regarding democracy. In previous election seasons, tactics included aligning this initiative with multiple lecture series, programming, workshops, and faculty collaborations; and commitment to establishing a long-term, sustainable model to support voter registration and non-partisan programming campus-wide.
- **Government and Community Relations:** In addition to serving in a role of understanding, supporting and explaining voter engagement across campus, Government and Community Relations is promoting voter engagement on UO Advocates social media channels and maintains a Register to Vote webpage.
- **OSPIRG (Oregon State Public Interest Research Group):** In the 2023-24 school year OSPIRG has worked on voter registration through class raps, tabling, text-banking, and reaching out to campus and community groups. All these efforts work to prepare OSPIRG to mobilize voters in the 2024 presidential election to keep young voices in the conversation. Moving into the 2024-25 school year OSPIRG plans to continue doing class raps and tabling, as well as work with campus groups to connect with as many people as possible.

Measuring success

Historically, the University of Oregon has exceeded peer institutions in registration and participation rates, however, [2020 NSLVE data](#) shows the UO’s voting rate remained the same at 56.2%, as compared to an increase among almost 90% of peer institutions at 66%. We have not been given access to the 2022 NSLVE data yet.

- **Voter registration and participation analytics:** UO will compare participation and turnout in 2024 to previous cycles.
- **NSLVE reports:** The UO is a participating campus in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement and uses and shares data reports.
- **ALL IN tools:** Campus partners are promoting ALLINtvote.org registration resources and are providing pledge and voter registration data collected through other voting platform sources whenever possible to ALL IN for analysis and competition purposes.
- **Studentvote.org:** OSPIRG is encouraging students to register through the studentvote.org system. We will work to share counts between studentvote.org and ALLINtvote.org systems.

Additional resources and partners:

- Lane County Elections Office
- League of Women Voters of Lane County
- History of Vote by Mail in Oregon (Multnomah County)
- CAUSA (Oregon immigrant rights organization): Civic Engagement
- Oregon Secretary of State Voter Registration Ballot Tracker