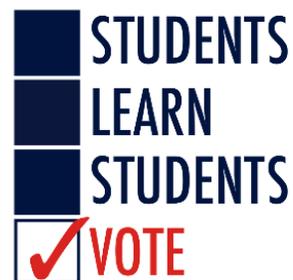


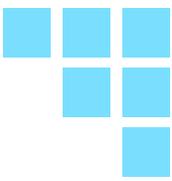
ELECTION OFFICIAL

& CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT

report & toolkit



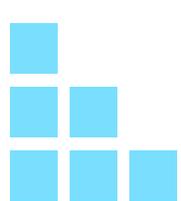
November 2021

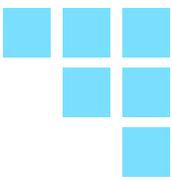


ELECTION OFFICIAL & CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT REPORT & TOOLKIT

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Last Updated: October 28, 2021





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

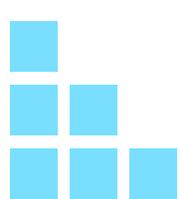
The [ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge](#) (ALL IN) and the [Students Learn Students Vote Coalition](#) (SLSV Coalition) are nonpartisan, nonprofit programs that collaborated on this report to better understand the extent to which colleges, universities, and local election officials work with each other; the most promising and best practices within these relationships; the opportunities to improve relationships and coordination between campuses and local election officials; and the challenges encountered by both campuses and local election officials to better coordinate collective efforts to support student voters. This report provides data gathered from our national survey and interviews, as well as action items that campuses and local election officials can consider to support college student voters and facilitate election administration across the country.

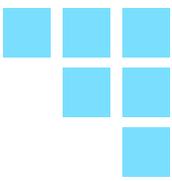
ALL IN and the SLSV Coalition distributed a survey to campus contacts and local election officials from July-September 2021 and conducted one-on-one interviews with members of both groups. More than 100 campus contacts and more than 100 local election officials responded to the survey. Interviews via calls and email were conducted with 18 campus and local election official respondents.

Our results highlight a wide variety of mutual benefits that come from these collaborative partnerships. From campuses being able to better support student voters to election officials gaining additional creativity and capacity in their office, both parties have found substantial benefits in working together. Civic engagement spaces on campuses and local election offices both often face issues of underfunding, and these spaces can be understaffed. But our survey underscores that these groups are deeply aligned - both are strongly nonpartisan institutions firmly committed to strengthening voter engagement. **Our findings show that the unique resources of both these groups can complement each other when campuses and local election officials collaborate.**

In fact, the results overwhelmingly indicated a strong desire for both campuses and local election officials to work more closely together on voter registration, voter education, voter turnout, and student opportunities to serve as poll workers or intern with local election offices. While both parties raised concerns about overall capacity to manage these efforts, respondents continually reported that when the groups maintained consistent communication throughout the year, both parties found value in the collaboration - even if that meant only checking in once, twice, or four times per year.

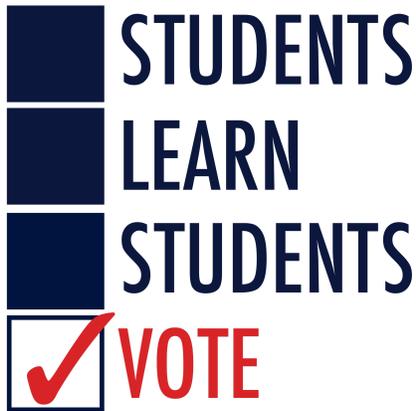
ALL IN and the SLSV Coalition see this report as the start of an even more collaborative process to provide action items to help campuses and local election officials establish and maintain positive working relationships. A full list of acknowledgements is available at the end of this report. We would like to give a special thanks to the Center for Technology & Civic Life, Democracy Works, the League of Women Voters, ElectionLine, and several state and local election officials for their help in distributing this survey, and to all the individuals who completed the survey



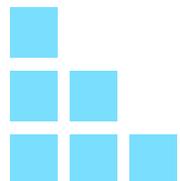


ABOUT US

The [ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge](#) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit program that supports more than 830 colleges and universities to achieve excellence in nonpartisan student democratic engagement and envisions a more engaged and inclusive democracy. Through institutional engagement, direct student engagement, and fostering a national higher education network, ALL IN strives for an electorate that mirrors our country’s makeup and in which college students are democratically engaged on an ongoing basis, during and between elections, and not just at the polls. We believe that a strong, vibrant, and more representative American democracy will result from the greater inclusion of informed college student voters.



Comprised of a diverse group of more than 400 local, state, national, and student nonpartisan organizations with a presence on almost 2,000 campuses, the [Students Learn Students Vote \(SLSV\) Coalition](#) is the national hub and largest nonpartisan network in the United States dedicated to increasing college student voter participation and democratic engagement. We believe every college student deserves easy and equal access to participate in every election, facilitated and encouraged by their institutions of higher education.

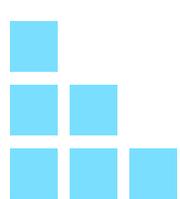


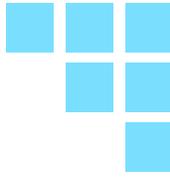


CAMPUS INSIGHTS

Our survey shows that the vast majority of campuses who completed the survey do work with local election officials to support voter engagement efforts. While the majority reported at least some satisfaction with past efforts, campuses also report strong interest in strengthening voter engagement coordination with local election officials, and establishing better communication and institutionalized forms of collaboration. The majority of campuses (both 2-year and 4-year) expressed interest in recruiting students to serve as poll workers, promoting internship opportunities for students at local election officials offices, and incorporating local election officials as active members of their nonpartisan campus voting coalitions. Interestingly, the survey shows that regardless of the method of outreach, if campus personnel reached out to local election officials, over 90% of the time they ended up working with these officials. This data suggests that campuses hold the key to making the relationship between campuses and local election officials successful. It takes work from both parties, but when campuses reach out or respond positively to local officials' outreach efforts, election officials are much more likely to effectively work with a campus.

One-on-one interviews with faculty and staff at colleges and universities underscored the desire for greater collaboration with local election officials. Campus administrators and faculty consistently mentioned the desire to establish long-term relationships and foster open communication between campuses and local election officials, and often stated a “desire to do better” and that there is “room for improvement.” A number of respondents also expressed desire for greater coordination between campus personnel (faculty, staff and students) in addition to stronger communication with local election officials. A number of respondents mentioned a particular desire to work with local election officials to create voter education programming specifically designed with college students in mind. A number of respondents specifically mentioned the desire to have local election officials participate actively in their nonpartisan campus voting coalitions; they believed this would foster closer engagement with students, and help the officials to become more involved in campus events and programs.





Campus Top Line Data

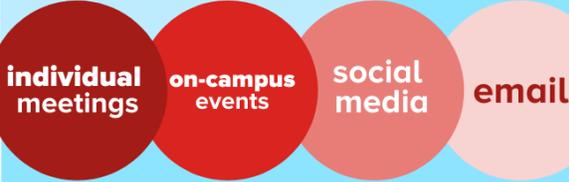
78%
of campuses surveyed have worked with local election officials to support voter engagement efforts

92%
of campuses surveyed report at least some satisfaction with their past voter engagement efforts with local election officials, and 61% report being either satisfied or very satisfied


Only **5%** of campuses surveyed report currently available internship opportunities for students at local election offices, and **68%** consider this to be a key area where voter engagement coordination with local election officials could be improved.


24% of campuses surveyed had a local election official as an active member of their nonpartisan campus voting coalition (Notably, no respondents from community colleges reported this to be the case.). **78%** of institutions reported interest in bringing in a local election official into such a coalition.


91% of campuses surveyed would be interested in regular meetings between local election officials, contacts at other colleges and universities and nonpartisan nonprofit organizations to discuss efforts to support college student voters.

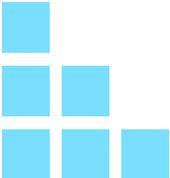
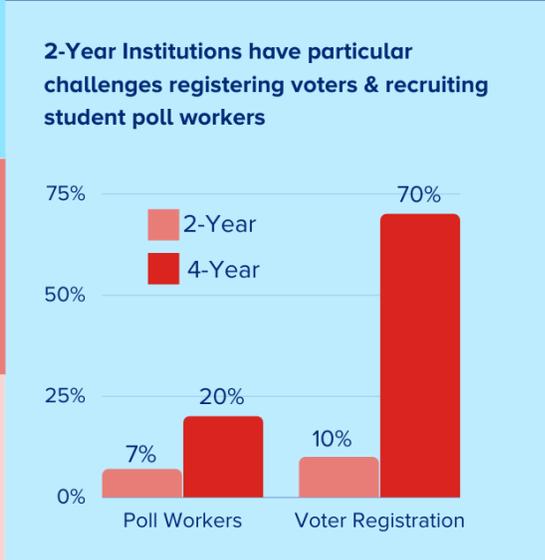


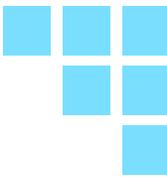
The primary challenge identified by campuses for building relationships with local election officials is a lack of capacity on campus to maintain this relationship.

Outreach is effective. **90%** of campuses surveyed stated they reached out to their local election official established a relationship.

Majority of respondents were faculty/staff attached to a civic engagement department. → Further research should target student (undergrad & graduate) perspectives.

Further research should be done to intentionally focus on HBCUs, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Native American Tribal and Non-Tribal campuses to investigate whether these institutions have particular responses and needs.





CAMPUS ACTION ITEMS

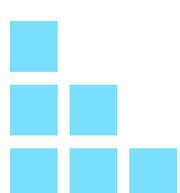
Based on the results of our survey and one-on-one interviews, we believe campuses should consider taking these steps throughout the next few years. Starting with some of the easier action items in 2022 will give you plenty of time to work your way up to the more challenging action items by the 2024 election.

Reach out to your local election official to start the conversation!



Our survey showed that campuses reported very similar satisfaction levels regardless of outreach method or the person reaching out. Just starting the conversation with a consistent point of contact at your local election office is key to making this a productive partnership in the long-run. Even if capacity is limited, start small by checking in with your local election official once or twice a year, working up to quarterly meetings. As you plan this outreach, remember that election officials tend to be incredibly busy in the weeks leading up to and after an election, so start early and avoid these times when you reach out.

Make sure to research how elections are run in your area and who is involved. Every state administers elections differently but in almost all cases, your county or municipal election official will be the person you most want to connect to. You may have other options of people to work with but they usually won't have as many opportunities to help in your area.





Designate an official point of contact on campuses for student voter engagement efforts.



If there is capacity, make voter engagement the main job responsibility for a campus employee. Make sure this point of contact is, or closely works with, someone who plans to be on campus for a while (faculty members, administrators, leadership in a department, etc.). This doesn't mean that everything should be done by one person; having this consistent point of contact makes these partnerships much easier to maintain. This point of contact on campus should work to engage and coordinate with administration, student leaders, faculty, and other campus stakeholders to make sure the work gets done.

One of the major keys here is having a consistent point of contact that election officials know to work with. If that contact changes every few years (maybe due to students graduating or staff turnover), be sure to have a succession plan in place, and keep your local election official informed about staff changes.

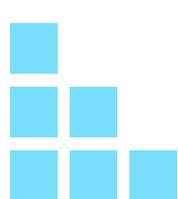
Reach out to include local election officials in campus voting coalitions. Consistent communication and engagement is key.

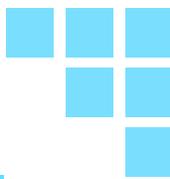


This was an area for growth that really stood out from our survey responses. Only 24% of campuses had a local election official as an active member of their campus voting coalition (notably, no respondents from community colleges reported this to be the case). But the interest is definitely there, as 78% of institutions reported interest in bringing a local election official into such a coalition, and the majority of election officials reported interest in more frequent meetings with campuses.

If you are in an area with many college campuses, you can also host strategy meetings that bring together several campuses and local election officials. A few local election officials surveyed expressed interest in coordinating events and voter engagement efforts with multiple campuses together.

Be mindful about bringing in election officials at strategic times. It may not be helpful to have them at every meeting but if there are meetings that especially could benefit from their perspective (maybe two or four times a year), there seems to be mutual interest from both parties in having these meetings.





Invite your local election officials to attend on-campus events and important meetings.



While we generally saw similar satisfaction levels from campus outreach strategies (such as emailing, regular in-person meetings, phone calls, etc.), we did see a slightly higher satisfaction level from campuses that invited their local election officials to on-campus events.

Campuses can invite their local election officials to speaking events on campus in order to increase awareness and interest in local government. Voter education was an area where both campuses and local election officials saw a lot of potential for improvement.

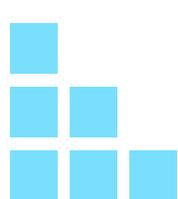
Additionally, you can work with nonpartisan nonprofit third parties to invite local election officials to participate in events and voter registration drives. Some of these events can include [Civic Holiday](#) celebrations, major voter registration events, voter registration trainings for student volunteers, and more! One Civic Holiday to keep on your radar is [Election Hero Day](#) - a day to thank and celebrate the people who make our elections happen (election officials, poll workers, volunteers, and more).

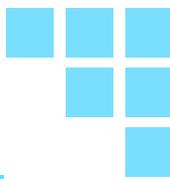
If you have [Election Day registration](#) available in your state, encourage your students to register beforehand to minimize lines on Election Day.



One recurring theme we saw from the survey responses of election officials was a need for campuses to encourage students to get registered to vote and cast their ballots before Election Day. While having [Election Day Registration](#) available in your state is a great opportunity to increase student voter turnout, processing that many registrations on Election Day is an administrative burden on election offices and can create long lines at polling places.

This strategy also makes it easier for students to actually cast their ballots. By viewing Election Day as the last day to vote (and in some cases register), students can vote when it is most convenient for them. Additionally, promoting earlier voter registration deadlines and early voting opportunities gives students more time to troubleshoot any sort of issue that could come up. A fun way to do this is by celebrating [Vote Early Day](#)!





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Arrange for polling places on or near campus staffed by students, and work with students clubs, athletics departments, and other student organizations to recruit poll workers.

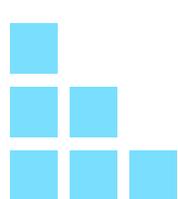


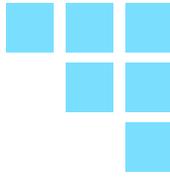
On-campus voting sites can encourage students to register to vote using their campus address and make it easier for students to vote. These voting sites allow residential students to avoid seeking transportation to (sometimes distant) off-campus locations and raise the visibility of elections, especially for primaries, special elections, and non-presidential elections. We recommend pursuing any on-campus voting site well in advance of the next election.

College campuses offer plenty of locations that are easy to set up as voting locations and the student population is a great recruitment resource for poll workers. Whether you set up an early voting location, an Election Day polling place, or a ballot drop box, the benefits to your students and the community can be immediately seen!

When considering this option, make sure you integrate these tips and best practices into your planning:

- ★ If possible, do not charge local election officials for space on campus.
- ★ Be thoughtful (and consult students) when choosing polling locations, situating them at an easy to find and access place on campus.
- ★ Consider offering excused class absences for students volunteering as poll workers, and encourage faculty to





- ★ avoid scheduling tests or large assignments on voting days. Encourage faculty to include voter registration deadlines and election days in their syllabi. Also consider offering students service credit for serving as poll workers.

For additional information on how to pursue on-campus voting locations:

- ★ Consider how the [Weber State University Women's Basketball](#) team in Utah helped set up a mass voting center and served as poll workers.
- ★ Rice University (TX) had great success with offering an early voting location on their campus at Rice Stadium, and had an Election Day polling location which was completely student-led.
- ★ Read additional resources that can help your efforts at the [end of this report](#).

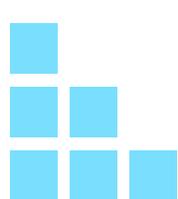
Work with your career center, faculty, student organizations, and campus fellowships to partner on an internship program with your local election office.

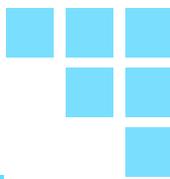


Local election officials who have offered internships in their office loved this idea! Not only were they able to expand their capacity and take on creative and innovative projects, one local election official even described this work as important for the long-term health of the election administration profession - allowing students to see this work early on and begin to plan their own career in this field.

On the campus side, establishing these programs can further build this partnership and give students a unique opportunity to build their leadership skills, learn more about the community, and further their research and academic goals.

To help establish these programs, campuses can provide college credit, or encourage faculty to offer assignment credit for interning at local election offices or serving as poll workers. They can also work with their career center or campus fellowship programs to see if an internship can be funded through a fellowship or work-study program. We also saw examples of working with faculty and students with research projects that align with your local elections office's goals.



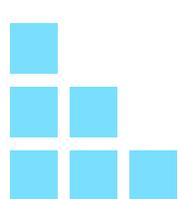


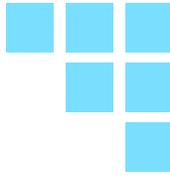
Work with local election officials to identify barriers to student voting (i.e., lack of proper photo identification) and creative ways for campuses to address these barriers.



One major benefit of a well-established collaborative partnership is the ability to troubleshoot through unique issues together. Whether it is a precinct splitting a campus in half, voter ID laws that make it difficult for students to vote, or confusing address issues on campus, we saw plenty of examples of campuses working with election officials to help their students vote. Some of these examples included:

- ★ Creating a single campus mailing address, particularly for smaller residential campuses, which students can use to register to vote in order to reduce issues with incomplete voter registration applications. This may not be possible in every state; make sure to ask about relevant state laws as well.
- ★ In an effort to reduce issues with rejected voter registration applications due to incorrect addresses, in 2004, the Board of Elections of Lancaster County and Franklin & Marshall College in Pennsylvania collaborated to use a pre-printed voter registration form with a single campus address, since all students receive their mail through this single address. This collaboration has reduced incomplete voter registration applications.
- ★ At Johnson and Wales University in Rhode Island, half of the 12 residence halls are in one local jurisdiction and the other half are in another jurisdiction. This led to numerous voter registration and election administration challenges. A Rhode Island local election official noticed many student voters were listed as inactive due to returned mail. Their office reached out to the university, the city of Providence, Rhode Island, and the United States Postal Service to create a new address on campus for the residence halls in a different local jurisdiction. The election official said it was a “matter of moving paperwork around” to enact the solution which ensured that students registered in the correct jurisdiction and received election mail. In 2020 nearly





★ all voter registration address errors were eliminated for the campus!

Develop a plan so on-campus documents like student IDs meet proof of residency and other requirements to work as voter IDs. For example, the [University of Iowa created a temporary student ID card to meet voter ID requirements](#) and [Louisiana State University changed their student ID](#) so it could be used as a voter ID.

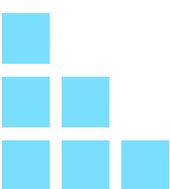
If you are having trouble connecting with your local election official, try working with state election officials or other elected officials instead. Also think about how other contacts on campus can help your efforts.

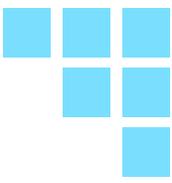


In some cases, campuses that have had difficulty establishing productive partnerships with their local election officials. While not common, some campuses occasionally face pushback when they first try to set up these lines of communication. It is rare that this type of pushback is intentional, and it usually only requires a little bit of creativity to address.

For example, some campuses have worked around reticent election official offices by connecting with other entities in the state that have jurisdiction over parts of the election process - sometimes that can be county commissioners or state boards of elections. In some states the local election official submits a recommendation of where polling places should be but the county commissioners can add their own and vote some down. You can find workarounds if your local election official is not responsive to your outreach efforts.

Campuses have also leveraged on-campus and off-campus partnerships to help establish these relationships. By reaching out to your local elected officials (such as your city councilor or state legislator) and asking for a connection or working with your on-campus government affairs office, you can sometimes get help in opening up lines of communication with your local election official.



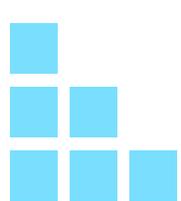


LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL INSIGHTS

A strong majority of local election official respondents reported being at least somewhat satisfied with their past voter engagement efforts on campuses, but they also identified many spaces for improvement in coordinating voter engagement efforts with colleges and universities. In particular, the majority of local election officials see voter education events as spaces where voter engagement coordination with colleges and universities could be improved. There is strong alignment with campuses on the opportunity to recruit students to serve as poll workers and the value of offering internship opportunities for students at local election offices. In consensus with campus respondents, the majority of local election officials who participated in our survey reported interest in regular convenings with contacts at colleges and universities and nonprofit nonpartisan organizations to support student voters.

One-on-one interviews with local election officials reflected challenges in accessing highly mobile student populations. Many expressed a desire to share their technical knowledge with students, but they often lacked clarity on the best method for sharing their expertise. One consistent theme that emerged is the desire for a dedicated point person on campus to contact, someone who could be counted on to assist with disseminating information to staff and students, and a process to transition that point of contact when the current campus contact changes roles or leaves the institution. Local election officials routinely expressed the need for improved communication, coordination and collaboration with campuses. While some local election officials identified challenges working with third-party groups, others found great value in working with non-partisan partners, such as the League of Women Voters. In both cases, respondents identified a desire for stronger coordination between campuses, nonprofit organizations, and local election officials to ensure proper procedures. In one-on-ones, election officials noted the value of student interns, as they can provide much-needed technological support, and can help with social media, content design, and recruitment of student poll workers.

Our survey responses and interviews also brought up several actions that would support student access that would have to be completed at the state level, rather than the local level. You can find those recommendations at the end of this section.





Local Election Official Topline Data

71%

of local election officials surveyed

reported working with area colleges or universities to support voter engagement efforts.

78%

of local election officials surveyed

reported some level of satisfaction with their past voter engagement efforts on campuses.



Local election officials surveyed report the highest level of success (**47%**) with voter registration efforts. Voter education, adding and keeping polling locations on campus, and recruiting student poll workers each shared a **25%** success rate.



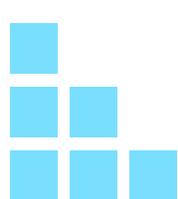
Local election officials surveyed reported working with 2-year institutions (for example community colleges and technical colleges) and 4-year institutions with roughly the same frequency (**57%** versus **65%** respectively).

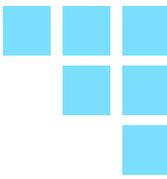
85%

of local election officials surveyed did not have a page on their website to help college student voters, which may be a potential avenue for offices to explore, particularly if internship opportunities at these offices open up for students.

85%

of local election officials surveyed preferred **email** as their primary mode of communication with local colleges and universities.





LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL ACTION ITEMS

Based on the results of our survey and one-on-one interviews, we believe local election offices should consider taking these steps throughout the next few years. Starting with some of the easier action items in 2022 will give you plenty of time to work your way up to the more challenging action items by the 2024 election.

Consider creating a consistent contact person for student and youth voter engagement.



We found that having a consistent point of contact in your office, whose job responsibilities include meeting with campuses and other community partners, made it much easier to coordinate these partnerships. This does not have to be a person whose sole job is to connect with campuses, but someone who knows they are partly or wholly responsible for these partnerships.

To make it easier for campuses to know who to reach out to with their initiatives, you should also list this person on your website!

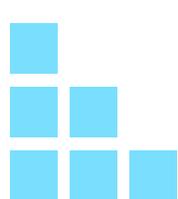
Find a contact on campus who can help set up an informational introductory meeting!

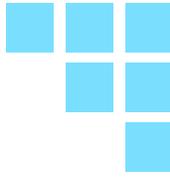


We spoke to several election officials who did not wait to hear from their local campuses. They started the outreach themselves and have been reaping the rewards of this partnership for years.

It's always good to seek out a civic engagement coordinator on campus, but if you can't find such a person, try reaching out to campus leadership, active faculty members, or nonpartisan student groups to help. We've even heard success stories from election officials who first reached out to career centers to get started.

One way to find a contact on a campus is to check to see if campuses in your jurisdiction are one of the more than 830 campuses participating in the [ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge](#) and if the campuses have published a campus action plan listing key voter engagement contacts on campus.





Additionally, feel free to reach out to us directly to see if we have any contacts at your local college/university! We're always happy to put you in touch. You can always contact us at allinchallenge@civcnation.org and info@slsvcoalition.org.

Create a page on your website to support college student voters.



If you have a large college student population in your jurisdiction, a webpage that lists relevant information for college student voters, available internship opportunities, and contact information for additional opportunities can make it even easier for campuses and their students to understand your voting laws and how to get involved.

One of the most widespread misconceptions about student voting is regarding where students are allowed to vote. As a reminder, by law, college students are allowed to register to vote in either their home jurisdiction or based on their campus address (*Symm v United States*). While they cannot vote in both locations, they can choose to vote either at home or at school. Mentioning this at the top of the webpage can serve as a helpful reminder to students.

For examples of how other offices have structured their webpages, you can see the following:

- [Boone County, Missouri Elections](#)
- [City of Madison, Wisconsin Clerk](#)
- [Washington Secretary of State](#)

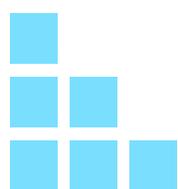
Work with campuses to initiate more voter education events on campus in addition to voter registration.

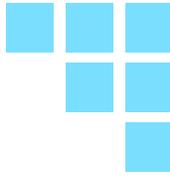


Our survey indicated that election officials that were invited to speak at campus events or were part of the planning process enjoyed higher levels of satisfaction with these partnerships.

By hosting events on campus, such as “Election 101” speaking engagements, you can get the correct information to the students directly. One creative way to do this is by bringing voting machines to campuses so students can become more familiar with them before Election Day.

One good opportunity to host these events is through [National Voter Education Week](#) (NVEW) - a week-long holiday that helps voters bridge the gap between registering to vote and actually





casting a ballot. From finding their polling location, understanding their ballot, making a plan to vote in person or by mail, and more, NVEW helps voters overcome common barriers to become confident, informed voters and ambassadors of voting in their communities for every election.

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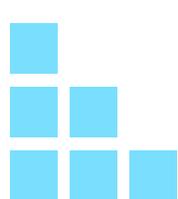
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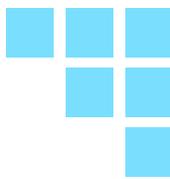
If your office does not already offer student internship opportunities, create them!



Internships offer a great opportunity to broaden capacity in your office. Students can help design and distribute resources, as well as pursue creative projects for your office that you may not have the capacity for. One local election official even described this work as important for the long-term health of the election administration profession - allowing students to see this work early on and plan their own career in this field.

Especially in areas with smaller budgets, working with campuses can be a low-cost way to expand your office’s resources. Campuses will sometimes have fellowships or work-study programs that pay for students to work at election offices. Sometimes students will have research projects that align with election officials' goals. One election office even set up an





internship program by using the budget for one of their temporary staffers they usually hire for elections.

Collaborating with student interns can also help to establish stronger ties with student voting organizations and art departments on campus, which can help with the creation and design of voting materials. Some interviewees even mentioned how they pursued the development of mobile apps through this partnership. One county elections office partners with their local campus' Spanish department to get help with translating voter materials.

To establish these programs, election officials have worked with campus career centers and fellowship programs, faculty members that are supervising research projects, and even students directly.

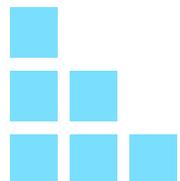
Join campus voting coalitions and attend their meetings.



Many campuses organize voting coalitions to plan their civic engagement efforts. These coalitions are usually made of diverse leaders on campus that include campus administrators, faculty members, student organizations, nonpartisan community groups, and in the best cases - their local election officials as well!

By joining these coalitions, you can stay in consistent communication with campuses about their different voter engagement initiatives. For example, the Madison, WI Clerk's Office joined bi-weekly meetings of the University of Wisconsin-Madison's campus voting coalition to coordinate campus voter engagement efforts leading up to the 2020 election. Having established this positive working relationship, the campus and clerk's office were able to work together on messaging and extend absentee voting hours during the spring 2020 primary before students left campus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

You can see if campuses in your area are one of the more than 830 campuses participating in the [ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge](#) and if the campuses have published a campus action plan listing key voter engagement contacts on campus.





Expand voting options around college campuses.

College campuses offer several areas that can be great locations for early voting and Election Day polling places, as well as ballot drop boxes. Campuses tend to have ample parking, are generally easily accessible, and usually have infrastructure to help staff and set up the location.



Recruit students to be poll workers.

College students make great poll workers! Not only do they offer a familiar face for college student voters, but many of them are very comfortable learning new technology and are looking for paid opportunities such as these. If possible, think of policies that can make poll working a more accessible option for college students - such as offering shorter shifts, and offering polling places located on, or conveniently close to campus.



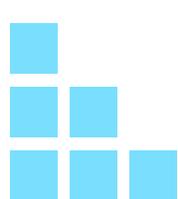
Be open to troubleshooting issues with campuses.

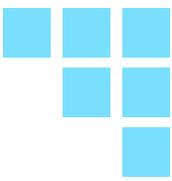
When campuses face unique administrative issues that can make voting confusing for students, their election officials tend to be overwhelmed with processing incomplete voter registration applications or troubleshooting issues at polling places. By working with campuses to fix these issues before an election, election officials have reduced their administrative burden and strengthened these partnerships in the long run.



Another issue campuses frequently contend with is being split between more than one voting precinct, even at small institutions. For election officials, this can make it harder to administer elections on these campuses as voting locations can differ for students living on the same campus. For campuses, this can make it more difficult to establish polling locations on campus that properly serve student populations.

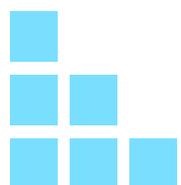
By keeping campuses in one precinct, it can be easier to support college student voters. In some states, a local election official may be able to fix this issue for campuses.

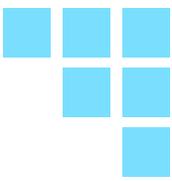




For some examples of creative troubleshooting:

- ★ At Johnson and Wales University in Rhode Island, half of the 12 residence halls are in one local jurisdiction and the other have in another jurisdiction. This led to numerous voter registration and election administration challenges. A Rhode Island local election official noticed many student voters were listed as inactive due to returned mail. Their office reached out to the university, the city of Providence, Rhode Island, and the United States Postal Service to create a new address on campus for the residence halls in a different local jurisdiction. The election official said it was a “matter of moving paperwork around” to enact the solution which ensured that students registered in the correct jurisdiction and received election mail. In 2020 nearly all voter registration address errors were eliminated for the campus!
 - ★ In Pennsylvania, an effort to reduce issues with rejected voter registration applications due to incorrect addresses, in 2004, the Board of Elections of Lancaster County and Franklin & Marshall College collaborated to use a [pre-printed voter registration form](#) with a single campus address, since all students receive their mail through this single address. This collaboration has reduced incomplete voter registration applications.
-





STATE ELECTION AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

ACTION ITEMS

While not a focus of our surveys or interviews, several campuses and local election officials mentioned potential measures that affected student voters but were more under the authority of state officials. State election officials, as well as municipal or state elected officials, should consider these actions to support college student voters and foster collaboration between campuses and their local election officials.

Dedicate staff to focus specifically on supporting college and university voters.



To better support these efforts at the local level and seek out similar benefits in their offices, state election officials can designate an employee in their office as the point person for college campus relationships.

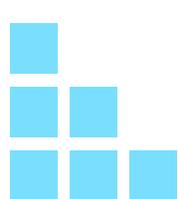
This employee can play a key role in coordinating efforts and communication between campuses and local election officials, and help to develop and share resources as well as host gatherings. These employees can also stress the importance of these partnerships to local election officials and uplift the great work that comes from these partnerships in the state.

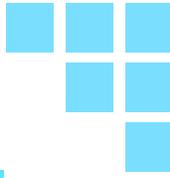
Avoid drawing precincts that divide campuses.



One issue campuses frequently contend with is being split between more than one voting precinct, even at small institutions. This can make it more difficult to establish polling locations on campus that properly serve student populations and make it harder to administer elections on these campuses.

By keeping campuses in one precinct, it can be easier to support college student voters. The process for determining precincts is different in every state and may lie with local or state election officials or even local or state elected officials.





Start a state-specific campus voting challenge with the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge.



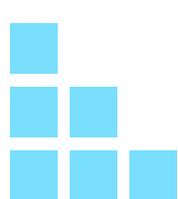
ALL IN supports 20 [state or city campus voting challenges](#), including seven in partnership with bipartisan Secretaries of State. These state challenges provide recognition for campus voter registration and voter turnout rates based on [NSLVE data](#), establish or enhance relationships between campuses, nonprofit partners, and state election officials, and increase the number of campuses in a state participating in ALL IN to receive support and structure to institutionalize nonpartisan democratic engagement.

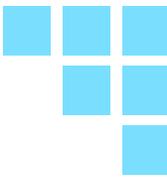
If possible, implement policies that can make poll working a more accessible option for college students.



College students make great poll workers! Not only do they offer a familiar face for college student voters, but many of them are very comfortable learning new technology and are looking for paid opportunities such as these. One major hurdle in recruiting college students as poll workers is when state laws or policies prohibit local election officials from offering more flexible shifts for poll workers. Having to work the full day (usually 12+ hour shifts) is very difficult for college students and stops many of them from participation. If within your ability, provide guidance to local election officials to consider breaking up shifts to make poll working more accessible.

Additionally, not many states or counties have programs specifically designed to recruit college students as poll workers (whereas we did see a lot of states that offered high school programs). Creating best practices resources (such as sample outreach materials), allowing flexible shifts, or even general endorsement of the idea can help local election officials work with their campus communities.





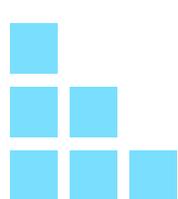
CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

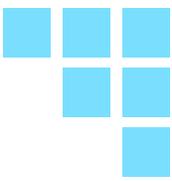
By bridging two pillars of American civic life – public officials and higher education – we can foster the kind of productive collaboration that makes the work of our election administrators more accessible and impactful for their communities as a whole, and most particularly for student voters. ALL IN and the SLSV Coalition see this report as the start of an even more collaborative process to support campuses and local election officials in establishing and maintaining positive working relationships. We plan to update this report as we learn of new insights or action items we want to uplift and as we create new resources that assist these efforts.

We are also excited to see how these findings can support existing programs and partnerships around the country, or even launch new projects to further develop these partnerships. We are already having conversations with a few nonpartisan, nonprofit partners to see how our efforts can support this work.

If you have any stories you'd like to share, or are interested in partnering with us on a potential initiative, please email us directly:

- ★ **ALL IN** - <https://allinchallenge.org/> - allinchallenge@civcnation.org
- ★ **SLSV Coalition** - <https://slsvcoalition.org/> - info@slsvcoalition.org





RESOURCES TO SUPPORT CAMPUS AND ELECTION OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENT

Nonprofit organizations have created various resources to support campuses and local election officials in their work. From organizing meetings to recruiting poll workers and securing on-campus polling places, these resources can be helpful to campuses and election officials.

For Structuring Your Meetings and Communications:

- ★ In partnership with the [League of Women Voters](#) and [All Voting is Local](#) (two nonpartisan, 501c3 organizations that coordinate election official meetings with their county chapters), we have built the following resources to help you with your outreach efforts:
 - [Sample email to your election official or college campus](#)
 - [Sample agenda/questions to ask during your meeting\(s\)](#)

For Campuses Recruiting Student Poll Workers:

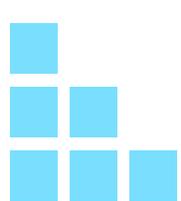
- ★ [The Hitchhiker's Guide to Building a Youth Poll Worker Project](#) was produced by Evan Malbrough who started the Georgia Youth Poll Worker Project as a student at Georgia State University and working with the Andrew Goodman Foundation. In just four months' time, Evan had successfully recruited over 1,000 young people in Metro Atlanta to be trained to work the polls in the 2020 election. Based on Evan's success with the Georgia Youth Poll Worker Project, The Hitchhiker's Guide to Building a Youth Poll Worker Project captures how other young people can build their own poll worker projects on their campuses and in their communities across the country.

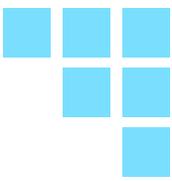
For Campuses Pursuing an On-Campus Polling Location:

- ★ [+1 the Polls](#) is a partnership between [MTV](#), the [Alliance for Youth Organizing](#), the [Students Learn Students Vote Coalition](#), and the [Campus Vote Project](#) that launched in 2020 and aimed to expand access to on-campus voting options across the nation to make it easier for students and the surrounding campus community to vote.
- ★ For more information about the program and to learn how to pursue your own on-campus polling location, visit the +1 the Polls [website](#) and check out the +1 the Polls [toolkit](#).

For General Resources Related to College Student Voter Engagement:

- ★ To learn more about ALL IN or the SLSV Coalition, review our resources that can help your general college student voter engagement efforts, or see how else we can support your efforts, you can visit our websites or email us directly:
 - **ALL IN** - <https://allinchallenge.org/> - allinchallenge@civcnation.org
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In addition to all of the individuals who completed the survey, we would like to acknowledge the individuals, organizations, and departments that helped make this report possible by sharing ideas and disseminating the survey to campuses and local election officials. We view this report as the start of a conversation and process to better support and increase engagement between campuses and local election officials.

All Voting Is Local

Beatrice Wayne, Students Learn Students Vote Coalition

Center for Technology & Civic Life

Common Cause Wisconsin

Democracy Works

ElectionLine

Eddy Zerbe, Students Learn Students Vote Coalition

League of Women Voters

Michigan Department of State

Pennsylvania Department of State

Rhode Island Department of State

Ryan Drysdale, ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge

Washington Secretary of State's Office

Each of our individual meetings with campuses and election officials

