
Maricopa County Community College Voter Engagement Plan: Paradise Valley Community College



Overview

ARS § 15-1895 requires each community college district, in consultation with the recognized student government at a community college under its jurisdiction, to adopt a plan to increase student voter registration and voting in elections that includes:

- ☑ Information about on-campus voter registration and voting opportunities made available in the following methods:
 - During new student orientation
 - In admissions packets
- ☑ Voter registration materials at central campus locations and high traffic areas
- ☑ Broad dissemination of information regarding:
 - Voter registration deadlines
 - Deadlines for delivering ballots by mail
- ☑ Links on institutional and administrative websites that detail the voter registration process
- ☑ Reasonable accommodations to county election officials for on-campus polling locations
- ☑ Encouragement to student government organizations to coordinate activities aimed at increasing voter registration and election turnout
- ☑ Policies to allow excused absence from classes for the purpose of voting
- ☑ Policies that prohibit the use of college resources and employees to influence elections
- ☑ An emphasis on efficiency and conservation of resources

The Maricopa County Community College District (“MCCCD”) and its associated colleges, aim to implement various methods for informing students of, disseminating information, and promoting voter registration.

Voter Engagement Team

The *Paradise Valley Community College* Plan was created by the following voter engagement team members:

- Administration and Faculty
 - Sam Tea, Student Life and Leadership, Student Services Specialist
 - Mike Ho, Student Life and Leadership, Student Services Manager
- Council of Student Leaders
 - Shanae Germick, Student Government Senator
- Club Collaboration
 - PVCC Student Government

Every election year prompts political activity in all sorts of venues, and MCCCCD both respects and encourages participation in the time-honored tradition of political activity on American college and university campuses. With that in mind, each of the District's campuses has a plan consistent with the terms outlined in ARS § 15-1895 with the primary focus being to increase student voter registration and voting in elections.

Goals

1. Increase student voter registration through events and projects through hosting tables to inform students the importance of voting and provide information regarding current elections
2. Scheduled community presentations such as workshops and/or candidate forums as opportunities become available

Voter Engagement Plan

Voter Registration

- New Student Registration/Orientation

Per the Campus Engagement Election Project:

“Orientation is a key transition experience for incoming students, introducing them to their campus community. It’s also a point where they’re all gathered together. As such, it is an ideal context to help your students register to vote and educate them on the electoral process. Here’s how you can use orientation and the accompanying introductions to campus to do this.”

Orientation Sessions will include information about voter registrations, to include a high-level administrator or student orientation leader to talk about the importance of registering and voting and give students an opportunity to register at school, or absentee if they prefer.

As New Student Orientations are scheduled in the computer labs and have gathering times before and afterwards, student leaders will be trained to guide students through the process of registration or updating of registrations using the online tools of Rock the Vote or TurboVote. Students can also download these same online tools onto their cell phones. Additionally, hardcopy Voter Registration forms will be distributed to all students at all orientations

- **Voter Registration Forms Completed at Strategic Locations**

Hardcopy Voter Registration Forms will be left at high traffic areas that all new students are expected to visit as part of the registration process. This includes the Welcome Desk, ID printing stations, and with all academic advisors.

- **Club Advisor Training**

Additionally, Club Advisors will be expected to assist the voter registration process. At Club Advisor Training in August, club advisors will be encouraged to create at least one voter registration/voter education event for their club members. Also Club Advisors will be provided with Voter Registration Forms, to be distributed at club meetings.

- **Online Outreach**

Using the CANVAS Learning Management System, Instructors will be given text to include in their course syllabus, which includes registration deadlines, including links to the Rock The Vote, Turbovote, or state voter registration sites.

Voter Education

- **Constitution Day – Mid September**

During Constitution Day Activities, The Office of Student Life and Leadership will distribute pocket constitutions and host an information table to administer a constitution day quiz. Participants with the most correct answers will receive a prize.

- **Student Public Policy Forum Recruitment**

During the second week of the academic year, as part of the recruitment efforts of the Student Public Policy Forum, Student Life and Leadership will host civic engagement workshops, to both educate the student body and generate interest in the SPPF program.

- **Free Speech Week – Mid October**

Free Speech Week is an annual event to raise public awareness of the importance of free speech in our democracy. A call for programs is sent to faculty, staff and students around topics such as cyber speech, cultural agility, and ballot initiatives. Classes often offer extra credit to students who attend the workshops during this week.

- **Voter Education YouTube Contest**

Students will submit videos on why voting matters. The winning video will be presented on TVs in the Student Union.

- **Online Resources for Evening or Online Students**

Website links and information provided on a dedicated Voter Education Webpage, to be updated regularly, to include: the Secretary of State, the County Recorder, Clean Elections Arizona and WeVote.

Resources

Estimated Budget

- \$50 per event/workshop provided by the Office of Student Life and Leadership for up to 2 workshops per month for two academic semesters.

Materials

- Voter Registration Forms, Voter Engagement Publicity provided by Rock the Vote, The Southern Poverty Law Center, and Next Gen America.

Support

- Maricopa Community Colleges Office of Community Engagement
- Assessment of Learning Team
- Free Speech Week Planning Team
- Maricopa County Recorder's Office

Assessment

Paradise Valley Community College has created General Education Assessments to be used in curricular and co-curricular events. A Civic Engagement Rubric was developed by the Assessment of Learning Team with the following learning outcomes identified:

1. The student will be able to summarize how civic engagement activities impact thoughts, feelings, and/or behavior related to perceived role in the community.
2. The student will be able to describe ethical issues and consider the various implications.
3. The student will be able to show evidence of fairness by providing a clear unbiased description of multiple points of view.
4. The student will be able to explain what it would be like to think and feel as other people do.
5. The student will be able to explain how actions can affect social, environmental, and/or economic aspects of the community now and in the future.
6. The student will be able to provide specific steps that lead to sustainability.
7. The student will be able to analyze how public policy, political systems, government, or historical events impact social, environmental, and/or economic aspects of the community.

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8. The student will be able to explain how course content can be applied to civic engagement activities.
 9. The student will be able to explain how civic engagement activities and coursework together lead to a high level of learning.

The PVCC Civic Engagement Assessment will be administered post event and responses scored using the Civic Engagement Rubric.