

✓ Dear Colleague

The **2016 Presidential Election** promises to be one of the more memorable elections in our nation's history. Voters' decisions on **Election Day 2016** will shape important decisions over the balance of this decade and may have implications over the next quarter of a century.

Encouraging, informing and facilitating widespread participation in the electoral process has long been one of higher education's most basic responsibilities, and is the goal of the National Campus Voter Registration Project's **Your Vote, Your Voice 2016** campaign, supported by the Washington Higher Education Secretariat (WHES).

To support and enhance civic engagement and political participation among college students, WHES launched the voter registration project in 1996, and has been active in every federal election since. These efforts gained heightened importance in 1998 when Congress mandated that colleges and universities make a **good-faith effort** to distribute voter registration forms to all students attending class on campus.

A recent report from Tufts University's National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement revealed only **66 percent of the nation's 7.4 million college students voted in 2012**. Even more revealing, only 40 percent of those eligible to vote for the first time cast a ballot. Clearly, we have work to do to ensure our students are registered to vote and cast a ballot in November.

Not just students, but every member of the campus community can play a role in voter registration, education and participation. We suggest presidents work with registrars, student affairs offices, student leaders, and employee groups in **developing creative ways** to foster education, encourage nonpartisan voter registration, and build a community-wide commitment to vote on Election Day 2016.

As Election Day nears, we urge you and your campus to become active participants in the nation's electoral process. Visit **YourVoteYourVoice.org** for additional tools and resources, including a campaign handbook and links to state voter registration initiatives to help your campus get started.

Co-chairs

David L. Warren
President
National Association of
Independent Colleges
and Universities

Muriel A. Howard
President
American Association of
State Colleges
and Universities

Richard H. Ekman
President
Council of
Independent Colleges

National Campus Voter Registration Project
1025 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

✓ REGISTER TO VOTE

Supporting Associations

The National Campus Voter Registration Project and **Your Vote, Your Voice** are endorsed by the Washington Higher Education Secretariat – 49 associations representing all segments of the higher education community:

ACT, Inc.	Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education	Council for Higher Education Accreditation
American Association of Colleges of Nursing	Council for Opportunity in Education
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers	Council of Graduate Schools
American Association of Community Colleges	Council of Independent Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities	Council on Governmental Relations
American Association of University Professors	EDUCAUSE
American College Personnel Association	ETS
American Council on Education	Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
American Dental Education Association	NAFSA: Association of International Educators
American Indian Higher Education Consortium	NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
Association of Academic Health Centers	National Association for College Admissions Counseling
Association of American Colleges and Universities	National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
Association of American Law Schools	National Association of College and University Attorneys
Association of American Medical Colleges	National Association of College and University Business Officers
Association of American Universities	National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities	National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
Association of Community College Trustees	National Association of System Heads
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges	National Collegiate Athletic Association
Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers	National Council of University Research Administrators
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities	Thurgood Marshall College Fund
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities	UNCF
Association of Research Libraries	University Professional and Continuing Education Association
College and University Professional Association for Human Resources	
The College Board	
Council for Advancement and Support of Education	

Time to Get Organized

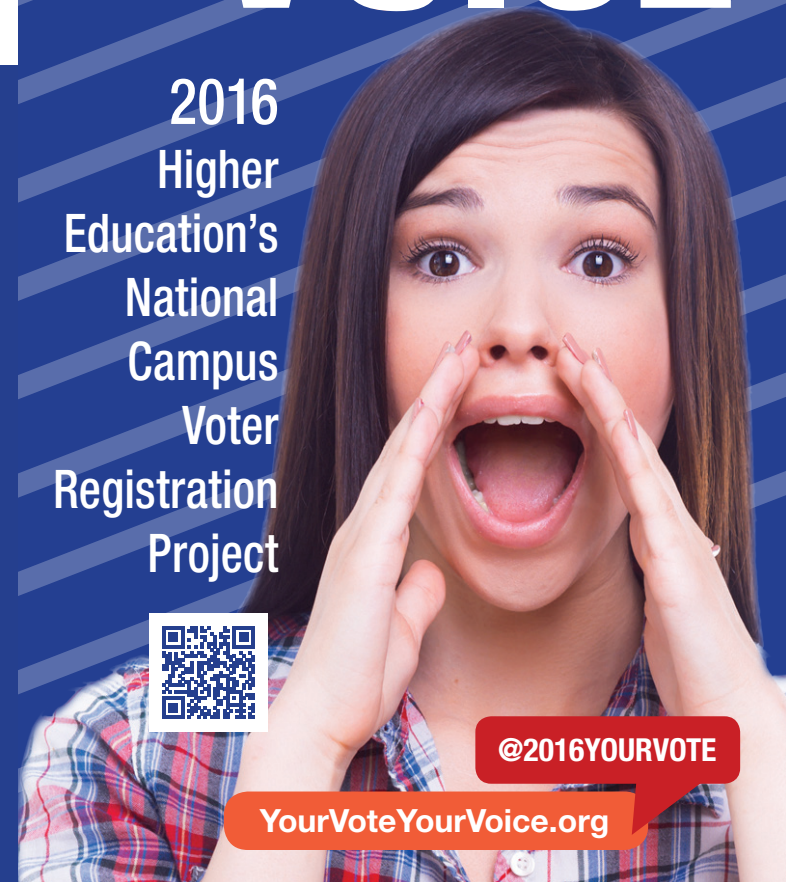
YOUR VOTE YOUR VOICE

2016
Higher
Education's
National
Campus
Voter
Registration
Project



@2016YOURVOTE

YourVoteYourVoice.org





Colleges, Voter Registration, and the Law

Established in 1996, the **Your Vote, Your Voice** campaign encourages and supports campus efforts to ensure students, faculty and staff are registered to vote and cast a ballot in national and statewide elections. In 1998, Congress required colleges and universities to distribute paper copies of in-state voter registration forms to students prior to their home state's voter registration deadline. This requirement applied to all federal and gubernatorial elections, as well as to special elections for such offices.

During the 2008 reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, Congress permitted the use of email messages with links to state registration forms, as long as the messages were exclusively devoted to voter registration:

The institution shall be considered in compliance with the requirements ... for each student to whom the institution electronically transmits a message containing a voter registration form acceptable for use in the State in which the institution is located, or an Internet address where such a form can be downloaded, if such information is in an electronic message devoted exclusively to voter registration.

—Higher Education Act of 2008, Title IV, Section 48 (a) (23)

(See the complete legislation at YourVoteYourVoice.org)

Your Vote, Your Voice 2016 offers colleges a variety of resources to conduct a campus voter registration and participation campaign that informs your community and satisfies the HEA requirements. This brochure is your invitation to visit and explore the resources available at: **YourVoteYourVoice.org**.

The campaign is endorsed by the 49 members of the **Washington Higher Education Secretariat** and works in conjunction with other national organizations that promote voter education and participation. The time to get organized is now, the registration deadlines in October are fast approaching

State Election Registration Deadlines

Dates reflect information available in April 2016. Campuses should check with the appropriate state election officials to confirm dates and procedures. A complete list with state telephone contact and website information is available on **YourVoteYourVoice.org**

October 7, 2016

Arkansas
Louisiana
Mississippi

October 8, 2016

Nevada

October 9, 2016

Alaska
Rhode Island

October 10, 2016

Arizona
Hawaii
Ohio
Washington

October 11, 2016

District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Illinois
Indiana
Kentucky
Michigan
Minnesota
Montana
New Mexico
Pennsylvania
Tennessee
Texas
Utah

October 12, 2016

Missouri

October 14, 2016

Idaho
New York
North Carolina
Oklahoma

October 15, 2016

Delaware

October 17, 2016

Colorado
Maine
Massachusetts
Virginia

October 18, 2016

Kansas
Maryland
New Jersey
Oregon
West Virginia

October 19, 2016

Wisconsin

October 21, 2016

Nebraska

October 24, 2016

Alabama
California
South Dakota

October 25, 2014

Wyoming

October 29, 2016

Iowa
New Hampshire

October 31, 2016

Connecticut

November 2, 2016

Vermont

Other

North Dakota – No
Registration Required

Campaign Resources

To get your efforts underway, visit **YourVoteYourVoice.org** to find critical information and resources, including:

- ★ [The 2016 Project Organization Handbook](#) with detailed information on conducting voter registration and education activities.
- ★ Access to all of the [state election offices](#) for the most current and detailed information on voter registration deadlines and requirements.
- ★ Link to the [U.S. Vote Foundation's Voter Registration](#) web portal to register students and request absentee ballots.
- ★ A [wide range of resources](#) and other organizations involved with elections and voting.

Selected Online Resources

The following organizations offer resources on elections, politics, and voter registration and education. A more extensive list can be found at **YourVoteYourVoice.org**

U.S. Vote Foundation
usvotefoundation.org/vote/voter-registration-absentee-voting.htm

American Democracy Project
aascu.org/programs/adp

CaniVote.org
canivote.org

Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE)
civicyouth.org

League of Women Voters
lww.org

Project Vote Smart
votesmart.org

Turbo Vote
turbovote.org

If we can be of further assistance, please contact us by email at vote@naicu.edu

Watch for campaign updates on Twitter: @2016YourVote

@2016YOURVOTE

YourVoteYourVoice.org