# Student Voting Plan for Anne Arundel Community College

Anne Arundel Community College

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#### Outline

In compliance with the Student and Military Voter Empowerment Act, Md. Code, Elec., § 3-204 (the "Act"), Anne Arundel Community College adopts the following Student Voting Plan ("Plan") with the goals of increasing AACC student voter registration and voting in collaboration with faculty, staff, recognized student organizations, and other appropriate stakeholders at AACC.

This Plan covers June 1, 2021 (the effective date of the Student and Military Voter Empowerment Act) through the Statewide General Election on November 8, 2022. To cover the two-year period required by the Act, the College has included information in this Plan that pre-dates the effective date of the law. After this initial Plan, the Plan will cover two-year periods, beginning on November 9th, immediately following each Statewide General Election.

This Plan includes the following topics:

- 1. Designation of a Student Voting Coordinator.
- 2. Wide dissemination of information about voter registration and voting opportunities to all students.
- 3. Provision of voter registration materials at central locations and high-traffic areas on campus.
- 4. Reasonable accommodation and collaboration with the local board regarding various topics.
- 5. Encouragement and support of recognized student organizations engaged in activities to increase voter registration and voting by students; and
- 6. Other activities to promote student participation in civic affairs and the election process that the institution determines are appropriate.

### Designation of a Student Voting Coordinator

The College has the Director of Student Engagement as the Student Voting Coordinator. The Office of Student Development will serve as the convener of the Voter Registration and Awareness Committee.

#### Student Voter Awareness Activities

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2020 and 2021, most programs were facilitated virtually; however, efforts to improve voter awareness and registration continued.

In fall 2021, continuing a long-standing tradition, Legal Studies Institute, and the Office of Student Engagement ("OSE") hosted Constitution Day Programming, including voter registration and Constitution Day events for students in September. The College distributed free pocket constitutions, voter information, and in-person voter registration in conjunction

with the League of Women Voters for students. In addition, the OSE hosted a virtual trivia event on social media for virtual students.

In February 2021, three offices (OSE, Strategic Communications, and the President's Office) partnered to recruit and prepare 10 students for Advocacy Day. Students from diverse backgrounds met with their local legislators and learned the importance of advocating for issues that impact their education. In September 2021, our Student Voting Coordinator attended the "All In" Virtual Conference on empowering Maryland student voters and learning what practices other colleges are using to encourage voter awareness on their campuses. Key methods that were shared informed the college's plans for 2022.

The College intends to continue its commitment to improving access to voter registration and increasing the number of registered voters via targeted educational programming both in and outside of the classroom. Through the combined efforts of the OSE, faculty within the Legal Studies Institute, the Student Government Association ("SGA"), and the Legal Studies club, the College continues to emphasize educating the campus community on:

- 1. The voter registration process and deadlines;
- 2. Key races within the State of Maryland;
- 3. The process and deadlines to use for voting, including early voting, mail-in ballots, and absentee ballots).
- 4. Locations and dates for early voting and election day voting, including transportation options to the voting locations; and
- 5. Voter registration at early voting centers and voter registration at precinct polling places on election day.

The College will also make efforts to register students, faculty, and staff to vote. Voter registration materials are available at central locations and high-traffic areas on campus, such as Hawks Nest Dining Hall, Health Life Sciences Building, and OSE Office. The College looks forward to reviewing future National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement ("NSLVE") election summary reports to provide additional insight for improving access to voter registration for students at AACC.

Strategies for Communication about Events and Awareness

- 1. Announcements through Canvas, the College's Learning Management System
- 2. Social Media Announcements through Strategic Communications, Student Government Association, Legal Studies Students, and OSE
- 3. Announcements through the Nest, the College's Student Engagement Platform

Strategies for Dissemination of Information

- 1. Formal Programs to discuss key races, voter registration and deadlines, and early voting hosted by Legal Studies Institute Faculty, Legal Studies Club, SGA, and OSE
- 2. Tabling by SGA
- 3. Social Media Announcements
- 4. Voter Registration webpage on the College's website

Strategies for Registering Students to Vote

- 1. Tabling by SGA and Legal Studies Club
- 2. Registration Rallies
- 3. Social Media Post informing students of location of Voter Registration link on website

Strategies to help students get to polls

1. Organization of college vans to transport students to voting polls

#### **Spring Semester Events**

Date	Name	Organizer	Key Topics	Location
March	Voting 101: Know Your Voting Rights	OSE	Finding accurate information. Navigating county website/board of elections. Understanding the election cycle.	Virtual

April	Registration Rally: "DoNut forget to Register"	SGA	How to register. Learning your polling sites.	Table at Volunteer Week Event and in Quad and Dining Areas
April	Trivia Night	Legal Studies Club	All topics. Voting.	Virtual or in- person.
April/May	Voter Awareness Event	OSE/LSI	Get to know the candidates, issues, and share voting deadlines.	In-person
June	Pooling to the Polls	OSE	Carpool to the Polls	N/A

#### **Fall Semester Events**

Date	Name	Organizer	Key Topics	Location
September	League of Women Voters: "Let's Talk Issues"	OSE	Current issues and platforms.	In-person
September 20, 2022	National Voter Registration Day	SGA	Handout pocket constitution, table.	Table at Volunteer Week Event and in Quad and Dining Areas
October	Constitution Day Trivia	OSE	All topics. Voting.	Virtual
June	Pooling to the Polls	OSE	Carpool to the Polls	N/A

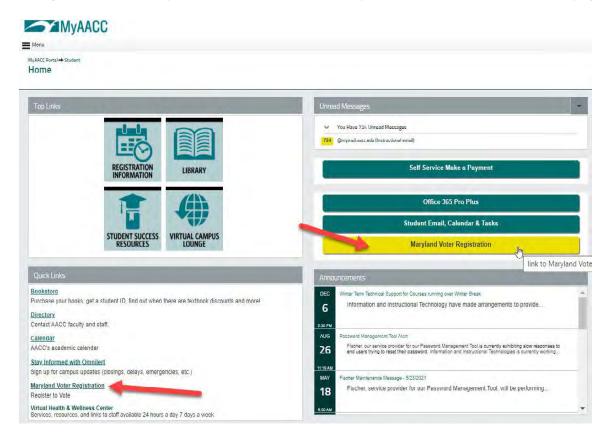
## Location of Student Voting Plan and Voter Registration Button

Anne Arundel Community College Student Voting Plan is located:

https://www.aacc.edu/policies/consumer-info/voter-registration/

The link to the online voter registration is prominently placed on the home page of the student portal in a location where it is easily viewed by students registering for course work. Students can also locate

the link to State of Maryland Voter Registration on the Office of Student Engagement Webpage. The College's online student portal includes a link to the <u>Maryland State Board of Elections' webpage</u>.



In 2021, there were 17,456 AACC students who were residents of Maryland and registered for course work, and 761 students accessed the Maryland Voter Registration online link through MyAACC.



## Voter Information Graphic



The College intends to collaborate with the local election board regarding:

1. The placement of an early voting center or precinct polling place on campus if requested by the local board;

- 2. Parking;
- 3. Campaign signs;
- 4. Voter access to campus without identification;
- 5. Polling place space requirements in compliance with State Board regulations;
- 6. Public education campaign;
- 7. Ballot drop box siting; and
- 8. Any other factors relating to the conduct of an election.