Virtual Events

In the event classes are suspended here are some alternative ideas of how to engage students from afar:

- **Virtual town halls** or virtual viewing parties.
  - Use a platform like Zoom or Skype to host candidates or professors to talk about upcoming elections or issues. Course management systems such as Blackboard or Moodle often include web conferencing capabilities. Check with your school IT department.
  - If there is a movie or other live TV event, you could also run a live Twitter event with a hashtag if possible.

- **Pre-record election-related topics and videos** to be sent out by professors.
  - To find topics for the videos try creating a survey that is given on social media.

- **Tie the current health crisis into topical on-line discussions.** Reach out to any clubs or organizations involved with health issues to work with them on pushing out information. But don’t just stop with health classes—the virus and efforts to contain it affect economics, public policy, statistics, business, arts programs, even parks and recreation majors. It’s on everyone’s minds. Think of creative ways to get it discussed in classrooms and share them with the broader CEEP team.

- **Work with journalism classes** to write articles to publish on social media or sent out by campus-wide emails.

- **Survey students on campus:** What issues do students on your campus feel passionate about? What issues would they like to learn more about? Create a brief survey (5-10 questions) to get valuable feedback from students. This can be an online survey. You should also consider using social media (see suggestions below). Use the results to create an educational event or resource answering any issues that might arise.

- **Contact your local representatives:** Look up who your local, state and federal officials are for your campus and areas of town with significant student populations. Provide opportunities where students can call or write their representatives to voice their concerns. Make sure you provide unbiased information on any current issues that may be going on in your area.

- **Get creative:** Create a music video or write an original song or poem about how important civic engagement is to you. Be sure to share your talent online and use the #CEEPFellow hashtag!

- **School spirit:** Use your mascot or famous campus idols to create online awareness about voter registration, education, and local issues.

- **Create/distribute information to fit Blackboard** or other course management systems campuses might use if moving towards online courses.
○ How do we get things online to professors?
  ■ Create a list of advisors, professors, or department chairs to contact.
  ■ Distribute premade messages for email blasts to professors.
  ■ Include election-related information and links on platforms and calendars
  ■ Design learning activities for use in a virtual classroom: readings, graphics, even a word search or crossword puzzle.

• Text blast: Select 10 students in your phone to send them engagement updates. Ask those 10 students to text another 10 students from their phone and continue to pay it forward. This also works with Snapchat.

• Make a Kahoot!: Students enjoy trivia games, including this timed quiz. Get in touch with their competitive side while teaching them about voting, registration, campaigns, or where to vote on their campus.

Social Media

• Art/graphic design challenge: Create some noise on social media around voting with an art or graphic design challenge! The prompt could be anything relating to nonpartisan voter engagement work and the entries could be tagged with CEEP and/or campus accounts and/or hashtags. We recommend checking out Canva or Over for free designing apps.

• Host a Facebook or Insta Giveaway: Giveaways and “tag your friend” memes are very effective in encouraging online participation. Ask your student workers how to incorporate them into your voter registration work! You could make a post that says “Tag a friend who needs to register to vote” or give a prize to the person who tags the most students to vote on Election Day or during early voting.

• Create a Social Media Campaign: It’s not too late to create a social media campaign! Take your voter engagement to social media with a social media campaign dedicated to educating students on how to vote, the current issues, and any other nonpartisan voting related material you feel is worth sharing. Check out this example from a Fellow at the University of Central Florida.
  ○ Try to create voting memes or tik toks.

• Interactive Instagram Story: Create a bunch of informative and interactive social media posts that help people learn about voting in their state. For example, you could create an Instagram Story with some facts about voting in your state. Include polls so that students can guess the answers to your facts before you reveal them! It’s a fun way to get the information out there.
• **Organize a Twitter Storm:** Pick a topic related to civic engagement. Ex: voter suppression, youth voting, state voting laws, etc. Create Qs (minimum of 5) and create graphics for each Q. Send the list of Qs (and some proposed answers) to folks and organizations you want to participate and promote on social media beforehand. Send your information to CEEP so we can promote your online event. Have a clear date and time and promote it on social media the week leading up to it.
  ○ Bonus points for having Qs in more than one language. Make sure you use several hashtags to widen your reach on Twitter and include graphics and gifs when you can. Ex: #NVVotesChat #KYR

• **Chill with a Spotify playlist:** See how many songs you can come up with related to voting, freedom, or civic engagement. Give the list an informative title such as "Don't Forget To Vote on April 7th, Wisconsin."

**For more social media information, check out our Social Media Toolkit Guide**

**Important Reminders**

CEEP has been working in a remote virtual environment since we began. We are willing to offer whatever support we can to you and your campus. The best part about our Fellows is their ability to be scrappy and adapt. For those with upcoming elections, offer solutions to students if possible, like early voting, mail-in ballots, absentee voting, and how to keep healthy at the polls. If any of your campus events are cancelled due to suspension of courses, work with your State Director to implement one or more of the remote activities above. For those who are unable to complete their fellowship due to the nature of this virus and would like to postpone, please contact the National Fellowship Director at courtney@campuselect.org.

CEEP, like our Fellows, will continue to adapt and work with our campuses to make sure fellowships are completed in a safe and positive way. As a Fellow your well-being is our number one priority. Keep in mind the following information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) when on campus and in public: clean your hands often, avoid close contact, stay at home when you’re sick, and cover coughs and sneezes. For more information on COVID-19 and prevention measures please visit their website [here](https://www.cdc.gov).

Please feel free to reach out to any CEEP team member with questions.

**Special thanks to the Fellows who helped to brainstorm these ideas.**