



How to Promote Voting in a School Library



Created for high school teachers and faculty

Libraries are an important part of high schools across the country. They are gateways to intellectual success, giving students access to traditional resources and new technologies. They are also gathering places for students to study and chat. The nature of libraries makes them an ideal place to prepare students for civic success. Here at Campus Election Engagement Project, we have compiled ways that your school library can promote civic engagement. Feel free to be creative and adapt our list for what works best at your school.

Tabling

Set up voter registration tables and decorate them with colorful election-related posters. Include both paper and electronic forms for students to fill out their voter registration. Use CEEP's [voting-rule guides](#) and [nonpartisan candidate guides](#) to give students key information. If possible, have someone (perhaps student volunteers or a teacher) at these tables during lunch or before and after school, so that they can answer questions. Read more about [effective tabling strategies](#) if your school is interested in tabling.

Posters

Beyond handing out resources at tables, libraries can also promote Campus Election Engagement Project's [nonpartisan candidate guides](#) by printing them as posters and posting them in key traffic areas of the library. If your head librarian has access to a school-wide email list, they can distribute the guides electronically as well.



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Online Advertising

Promote voter registration through the library's computer screensavers and wallpaper. You can also request for your school to bookmark links on the school's computers that take students to voter registration websites.

Election Bookmarks

Create bookmarks with key election-related dates and websites. These bookmarks could include registration deadlines and website links for registration rules, early voting dates and Election Day reminders. If funding is available, you can also give away free reminder items, like highlighters with Election Day dates, times and locations.

Mock Voting Booths

Talk with your local election commission about getting a mock polling booth set up in the library so you can walk students through how to use the machines. If you cannot access an official mock polling booth, check out [this resource](#) for how to create your own booth. Make sure to include candidate guides and information on relevant issues, along with registration opportunities, if registration is still open.

Election-Related Book Displays

Libraries can display election related books or articles as ways of spurring student interest. Librarians can also help students navigate government databases to search for election-related information.

Workshops

Libraries are also a great place to support voter education. Librarians can lead discussions on the history of voting in America, state-specific voting laws and redistricting policies. This is also an opportunity to invite guest speakers who are civically or politically active in the community to your school.



CAMPUS ELECTION ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

About Us

Campus Election Engagement Project (CEEP) is a national nonpartisan project that helps administrators, faculty, staff and student leaders at America's institutions of higher education engage students in federal, state and local elections. CEEP views voting as a means to promote a more equitable and inclusive democracy and to address past and present disenfranchisement. To learn more, visit campuselect.org or contact us at info@campuselect.org.

Looking for More Resources?

Visit campuselect.org for more resources and case studies to get students involved in the voting process.