

Student Voting Plan for Montgomery College

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Montgomery College
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OUTLINE

Enclosed in this Student Voting Plan are the voter empowerment activities of Montgomery College in compliance with the HB156 Student and Military Voter Empowerment Act (Chapter 656/SB 283 (Chapter 657) for public higher education institutions. The contents of this report include the following components:

1. Designation of a student voting coordinator
2. Description of how Montgomery College's offices, faculty, and student organization have continued to disseminate information about voting registration, civic education, and voting opportunities in 2021.
3. Plan of activities for the 2022 calendar year.
4. Location of Student Voting Plan on the College's MC Votes website.
5. Location of the student voter registration link on our website/student portal.

DESIGNATION OF STUDENT VOTING COORDINATOR

Montgomery College designated the Office of Community Engagement as the convener of the MC Votes committee and Gloria Bonilla, Community Engagement Associate Director, as the Student Voting Coordinator. Ms. Bonilla has over 15 years of experience working at Montgomery College in various departments.

STUDENT VOTER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR 2021

Montgomery College continued to promote several voter empowerment efforts over the 2021 calendar year. On March 13, 2020, Montgomery College pivoted to remote operations for employees and students, and began the return to campus transition over the summer of 2021, with some in-person classes and services returning in the fall of 2021. Despite a lack of in-person outreach, Montgomery College continued to host effective voter engagement programming. A description of key College efforts is provided below, followed by a list of specific outreach efforts hosted by different departments.

The Office of Community Engagement convened three meetings of the MC Votes committee, which is led by a representative from Student Affairs (Lisa Hackley), Academic Affairs (Professor Joe Stumpf), and the Office of Community Engagement (Karla Silvestre). Our Voting Coordinator is Gloria Bonilla. The meetings were used to learn about different departments' efforts in voter engagement and to plan for the upcoming year's mid-term elections. The former MC Votes convener, Nik Sushka, presented data from the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement at these meetings. From this presentation, we learned about Montgomery College students' voter registration and voting rates, which helped us to create our voter empowerment plan for the upcoming year.

Some faculty at Montgomery College incorporated voter empowerment lessons into their classes this fall that were developed for the general election in 2020. Other faculty invited local elected officials to their virtual classes to discuss a number of topics of importance to students, such as civic education, elections, and current events. The faculty representative of our MC Votes committee presented to all faculty chairs on the resources available to them on voting so they can begin to plan to integrate lessons into the courses for the spring and fall semesters of 2022.

The Office of Student Life held numerous events throughout the year to engage students in voting and civic education. On Student Advocacy Day, for example, students learned about the importance of voting and advocacy, and they discussed issues of importance to them with elected officials. Students from all 16 Maryland community colleges were present. On National Voter Registration Day, Student Life hosted the League of Women Voters to conduct in-person outreach on each of our campuses and on multiple days. In collaboration with the Political Science Department, Student Life hosted a Kahoot trivia event to assess students' knowledge of local and national voting. Another event in collaboration with the Political Science department was the "What is Gerrymandering?" event where students used manipulatives to explore how gerrymandering works and how political parties can legally take away voting rights.

The Office of Compliance, Risk, and Ethics sent out a reminder to all students on how they can register to vote. The communication contained both College, county, and state resources.

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE'S STUDENT VOTING EMPOWERMENT IN 2021

Date	Event Title	Purpose	Organization and/or Department	# of people contacted	Location
1/31/2021	Women's Legislative Briefing	Impact MC students logged in for at least one session during the online event	Office of Student Life/ Germantown Campus	23	Virtual
2/4/2021	Meeting with City of Rockville Mayor Newton	Discussion on the Rockville Arts District, a youth seat on the new Police Advisory Committee, Sustainability, homeless veterans, and being a public servant.	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
2/9/2021	Student Advocacy Day	Students learned about the importance of voting, advocacy and they discussed issues with elected officials. Students from all 16 Maryland community colleges were present.	Office of Student Life/ Germantown Campus	18	Virtual
3/1/21	Meeting with Maryland State's Attorney John McCarthy	Discussed police use of force	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
3/3/21	Meeting with Montgomery County Council VP Gabriel Albornoz	Discuss COVID-19 challenges and vaccinations, helping people affected by apartment fires, "Excel Beyond the Bell" program, students returning to MCPS, and Governor relations.	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
3/10/21	Meeting with Montgomery County Councilmember Andrew Friedson	Discussed the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, the Purple Line, creating a multicultural farmers market, and Governor relations	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
3/12//21	Speaker from the Office of Delegate Kirill Reznik	A staff member spoke to Impact MC students about advocacy and voting as avenues to social change	Office of Student Life/ Germantown Campus	19	virtual
4/21/21	Meeting with State Delegate Jared Solomon	Discussed Maryland police reform, returning to the classroom after COVID-19, and internships and scholarships	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual

4/22/21	Meeting with State Delegate Bonnie L. Cullison	Discussed COVID-19, voting rights, police reform, the legislative process, retaining teachers, and educating special needs children	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
4/25/21	Meeting with Montgomery County Councilmember Sidney Katz	Heard from students about their experiences at MC	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
4/25/21	Meeting with Delegates Bonnie L. Cullison and Jared Solomon	Heard from students about their experiences at MC	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
4/29/21	Jefferson Café, a community political discussion group	Discussed the 19th Amendment which gave women in the United States the right to vote	Professor Michelle Moran	15	Virtual
4/30/21	Meeting with Montgomery County Councilmembers Sidney Katz and Hans Riemer	Heard from students their experiences at MC	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
4/30/21	Meeting with MD Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford	Discussed procurement, the state of the Republican Party, police reform, bias against outlying MD counties, and gerrymandering	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
5/6/21	Meeting with State Delegate Eric G. Leudke and Marc A. Korman	Discussed student mental health, gerrymandering, police reform, cottage laws, peripheral MD county bias, and internships and scholarships	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
5/13/21	Meeting with Montgomery County Councilmember Evan Glass	Discussed budget and equity in public transit	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
5/18/21	Presentation to City of Rockville Mayor and Council	Students presented to help pass the Youth Commission Resolution	Professor Greg Sember	6	Virtual
9/23/21	Mass email to MC students (appendix A)	Mass email sent to all MC students with information on registering to vote	Office of Compliance, Risk, and Ethics	75,092 students approximately	Email

9/28/21	National Voter Registration Day	League of Women Voters provided voting registration information to students on the Germantown Campus	Office of Student Life/ Germantown Campus	35 received info, 8 registered to vote	In-person event outdoor table at the Germantown Campus
9/28/21	National Voter Registration Day	League of Women Voters provided voting registration information to students in the Rockville campus	Office of Student Life/ Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus	30 received info	In-person event, outdoor table at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus
9/29/21	National Voter Registration Day	League of Women Voters provided voting registration information to students in the Germantown campus	Office of Student Life/ Germantown Campus	35 receive info 8 registered to vote	In-person event, outdoor table at the Germantown campus
10/5/2021	National Voter Registration Day	Voter Registration	Office of Student Life/ Rockville Campus	40	Rockville Campus
10/20/21	National Voter Registration Day	Voter Registration	Office of Student Life/ Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus	40	Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus
10/22/21	MC Votes Committee	Planning meeting for upcoming year	College-wide committee including multiple departments	25	Virtual
10/29/21	Code Red for a Green Future	Panel discussion on climate policy and American conservation history	Professor Joe Stumpf	60	Virtual
11/4/2021	Kahoot Trivia	Assessed students' knowledge of local and national voting	Office of Student Life/Political Science Department/Rockville Campus	21	Virtual
11/5/21	Jefferson Café, community political discussion group	Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the Roe v. Wade abortion rights decision	Professor Howard Feinstein	15	Virtual
11/7/21	Meeting with City of Rockville Mayor Bridget Newton	Discussed the Rockville Youth Commission	Professor Greg Sember	16	Virtual
11/10/21	Alysoun McLaughlin, Deputy Election Director for Montgomery County, Maryland	Spoke on many of the concerns that people have about the practices to secure elections	Professor Rebecca Razavi	20 students in the Southern Management Leadership Program	Virtual

11/8/21	Meeting with City of Gaithersburg Councilmember Laurie-Anne Sayles	Discussed voting and civic engagement with the Germantown Student Senate	Office of Student Life/ Germantown campus	16	Virtual
11/10/21	MC Votes Meeting	Planning meeting for upcoming year	College-wide committee including multiple departments	25	Virtual
11/11/21	Student guest speakers at nonprofit organization, The Civic Circle	MC students spoke with MCPS students about voting and civic engagement	Office of Student Life/ Germantown campus	3 registered	Arcola Elementary School
11/16/2021	What is Gerrymandering?	Student event on how political parties can legally take away voting rights	Office of Student Life/ Political Science Department	20	Rockville Campus
Ongoing fall 2021	Embedded Voter Modules in fall 2021 political science classes	Embedded Voter Modules in all 2021 political science classes	Political Sciences Professor Jennifer Haydel	103	Germantown Campus
11/21	Academic Chairs Presentation	Presentation to Academic Chairs on resources available for faculty on voter empowerment to integrate in their classes	Political Science Department	22	College-wide
11/22/21	Meeting with State Delegate Lorig Charkoudian	Answered questions about upcoming bills, redistricting, the legal age for truck drivers, and legislative collaboration	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
11/29/21	Meeting with State Senator Brian J. Feldman	Discussed the under-insured, pedestrian safety, COVID-19 mandates, marijuana legalization, and if the American dream is really dead	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
11/29/21	Meeting with State Delegate Marc A. Korman	Discussed federalism, the budget surplus, property taxes funding education, tuition affordability for immigrant students, & helping folks imprisoned with marijuana offenses if marijuana is legalized	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
11/29/21	Meeting with Montgomery County Councilmember Andrew Friedson	Discussed ideologies, winning outside the room, the Montgomery County mask mandate, school funding, and balancing the job with priorities of real lives	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual

12/1/21	Meeting with State Delegate Jared Solomon	Discussed MARC Train, childcare, food security legislation, community college access and affordability, new COVID-19 variants, differences between Democrats and Republicans, and "honest" disagreement	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
12/10/21	Meeting with Montgomery County Councilmembers Will Jawando and Evan Glass	Discussed community needs during the pandemic	Professor Greg Sember	15*	Virtual
12/13/21	ELITE communication to all full time and part-time faculty	Our professional development office, E-Learning, Innovation, and Teaching Excellence (ELITE), sent all faculty an email blast letting them know of events and resources coming up in the spring semester so faculty can begin to plan to integrate voting in their classes	Paul Miller, ELITE	2,800 faculty	Email

*based on average class size

VOTER REGISTRAION PLAN FOR 2022

Goal: MC students register to vote, become informed about key races, and vote in all elections using early voting, mail-in ballots, absentee ballots, and on Election Day

1. Strategies to promote student voter registration:
 - a. Develop a communications plan to promote voter registration (short videos by students, social media, posters, TV monitors, etc.)
 - i. Who is responsible: Office of Community Engagement and Montgomery College Television (MCTV)
 - ii. By when: First video produced by Feb. 1, 2022, and five additional videos by June 1 2022.
 - b. Hire four student ambassadors to do peer-to-peer voter promotion activities for the spring, summer, and fall semesters
 - i. Responsible: Office of Community Engagement
 - ii. By When: January 15, 2022
 - c. Tabling events at key in-person days on each campus such as the start of spring, summer, and fall semesters
 - i. Responsible: Office of Student Life
 - ii. By When: monthly in the spring semester
 - d. Conduct a training for faculty, staff, and ambassadors on how to complete a voter registration form
 - i. Responsible: MC Votes committee
 - ii. By When: May 1, 2022
2. Strategies to Inform Students on key races:
 - a. Promotion (electronic and hard copy) of Voter Guides
 - i. Responsible: Office Community Engagement and MC Votes committee
 - ii. By When: a month before the primary and general election
 - b. Events on campus and virtual by Student Life and Faculty
 - i. Responsible: Office of Student Life and individual faculty members
 - ii. By When: monthly
 - c. Host a candidate event
 - i. Responsible: in partnership with Leadership Montgomery and the College's Office of Government Relations
 - ii. By When: March 2, 2022
3. Strategies to help students vote on election days:
 - a. Buses to the polls (Party to the Polls)
 - i. Responsible: Office of Student Life, Office of Community Engagement, and MC Votes committee
 - ii. By When: Reserve buses by March 1, 2021

Calendar of Events for 2022

The 2022 local elections are important elections for our MC employees and students. These elections will determine our new governor, county executive, county council members, the Maryland General Assembly, and more. Throughout the spring semester, MC Votes will sponsor a series of workshops and events to help build awareness across our community. Below is a preview of the calendar of events sponsored by MC Votes. More activities will be added throughout the spring semester to help faculty build voter awareness in their courses and encourage staff to help organize events.

January 20, 2022, 9 a.m.

Learn about MC student voter participation rates in the 2020 elections. Nik Sushka will present data from the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) Report

Date: To Be Determined

Using Project Pericles to incorporate voter engagement into MC classes.

Project Pericles is a vibrant consortium of colleges and universities that promotes civic engagement within higher education. Building on the innovative vision of Eugene M. Lang, Project Pericles works in the classroom, on the campus, and in the community.

February 17, 2022, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Panel discussion with City of Gaithersburg elected officials led by Professor Jennifer Haydel

February Volunteer Fairs

Voter registration and election worker recruitment

March 1, 2022

The Voter Registration disclosure will be sent to MC students in the spring 2022 semester before the primary election.

March 2, 2022

Leadership Montgomery's candidate forum for county executive, county council, and board of education, Theater Arts, MC Rockville Campus, 3:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

April 4-8, 2022

Voter Engagement Presentations during the MC Office of Equity and Inclusion's Equity Week

June 2022, date to be determined

Workshop: Who is on the ballot? Learn to use the different voting guides to become informed about the candidates

Starting June 16 to Primary Election Day, TBD for general election. Voter engagement activities: Party to the Polls and transportation to the nearest poll sites to each campus

Ongoing through 2022

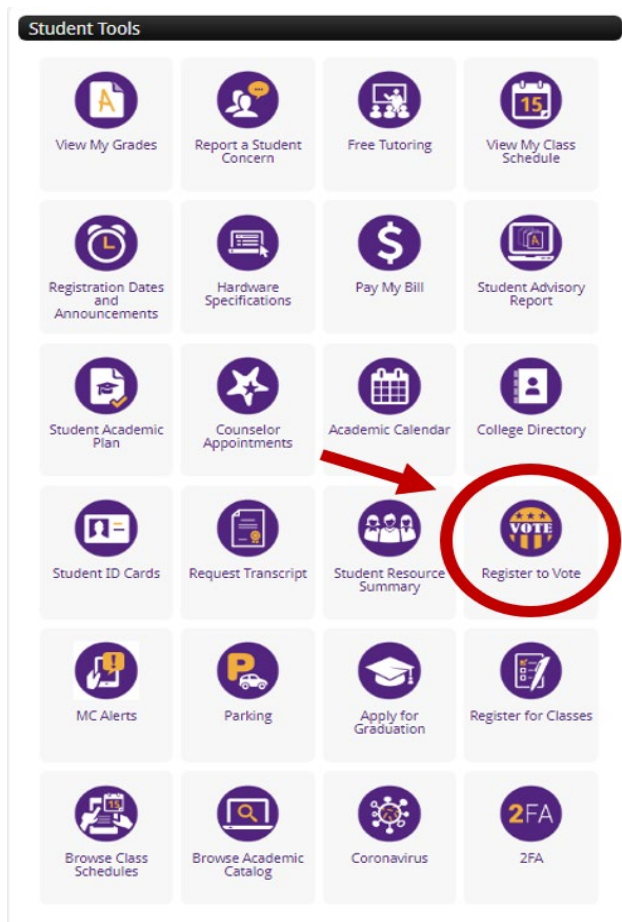
Voter registration tabling by Student Affairs

Voter Registration disclosures will be sent to all MC students via email in 2022 before the primary and general elections.

The Voter Registration disclosure will be sent to MC students before the general election also (planning to send email on September 15, 2022).

For more information about MC Votes, please visit our website [MC Votes](#)

LOCATION OF STUDENT VOTING PLAN AND VOTER REGISTRATION BUTTON



From January 1, 2021, to December 14, 2021, there were 626 clicks on the Voter Registration Link using the online student registration portal, MyMC.

The Student Voting Plan is located on the MC Votes Website

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/mc-votes/index.html>

APPENDIX A

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS REGISTER TO VOTE



Visit your campus Office of Student Life for voter registration applications.

Or register to vote online at [Maryland State Board of Elections](https://www.maryland.gov/elections)



Maryland Primary Election
Voter Registration Deadline: Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Early Voting June 16-June 23, 2022	Election Day Tuesday, June 28, 2022
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Maryland General Election
Voter Registration Deadline: Tuesday, October 18, 2022*

Early Voting October 27-November 3, 2022	Election Day Tuesday, November 8, 2022
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Election Information

MC Votes montgomerycollege.edu/ MCVotes	Montgomery County Board of Elections 777vote.org	League of Women Voters vote411.org
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Office of Student Life Locations & Contacts

Germentown – SA 113	stlifeg@montgomerycollege.edu	240-567-7840
Rockville – SV 104	stlifer@montgomerycollege.edu	240-567-5092
Takoma Park/Silver Spring – ST 217	stlifetpss@montgomerycollege.edu	240-567-1482

*Same Day Voter Registration is also available. See [777vote.org](https://www.777vote.org) for the latest election information.