



High School Voter Education Competition

Civic engagement and voter participation can change the way our community works.

Inspire change – increase voting participation

What inspires you to get involved?

Background: 18 to 24-year-olds have the lowest voter participation rates in the nation. Studies show early positive exposure to and engagement in the democratic process increases the likelihood that a young person will participate. To that end, the California Secretary of State designated the last two weeks in April and September as High School Voter Education Weeks. We are joining in these efforts and coordinating a countywide project to ensure each school is successful during this period.

Competition Overview: This competition is a non-political civic engagement activity designed to provide an avenue for student participation in the democratic process. The project will **increase voter awareness** as well as registration and pre-registration among young members of our community. Students will leave with a greater understanding of elections. This program offers an opportunity for ASB, political science clubs, or other service-learning clubs to continue working collaboratively and impact the community through online platforms.

Students: Your goal is to **promote the vote!** Encourage your peers to get involved, register, or pre-register to vote. How you reach out to your classmates and inspire them to register is entirely up to you.

Enrolling is easy:

1. Submit one complete application on behalf of a group representing your high school.
2. Receive voter registration training (approximately 1 hour) from Monterey County Elections after admission to the contest.
3. Follow the details provided below when participating in the competition.
4. Adhere to the Election Code including but not limited to the factual information on registration forms (these are affidavits), confidentiality and prompt delivery of completed registration forms.
5. School provides student enrollment data to determine participation rate.
6. School provides school logo by email to MCE.Outreach@co.monterey.ca.us

Application Deadline: Friday, April 12, 2024

Contest Rules:

1. Student group receives a prorated percentage for each completed registration/pre-registration form.
2. Student group receives five points for each voter registration activity during the two-week period.
3. Competition dates are from April 15 through April 26. Registration forms must be completed during these dates. Completed forms must be returned to the Elections Department within three business days of completion. No later than May 1, 2024.



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Winners: The high school with the highest rate of participation wins (additional points will be awarded for documented activities). Remember that this is a non-political competition. In order to keep a clear count of efforts in this voter registration competition, the competition will be limited to paper voter registration forms completed during the period of the competition. Any online registration forms or completed registration forms submitted outside of the competition period will be accepted but not counted towards the final. Registration forms provided to participating high schools will have a serial number affiliated to their school. Participation rates will be determined using the total number of returned registration cards divided by the total number of students in the high school aged 16 to 19.

The high school with the highest rate of participation wins. Incomplete or voided voter registration forms will not be counted toward the total number of forms submitted.

Winners will be announced on May 24, 2024.

Participation Recognition: Each participating school will receive a certificate of participation. In addition, all participating high schools will be acknowledged on the Monterey County Elections social media.

Winner Recognition: Recognition from the Monterey County Board of Supervisors and the Secretary of State.