



Ivy League Institutions are ALL IN for Voting

The [ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge](#) is pleased to announce the Ivy League Voting Challenge, a collaboration with Brown University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth University, Harvard University, Princeton University, University of Pennsylvania, and Yale University. The Ivy League Voting Challenge seeks to fulfill a responsibility of higher education to graduate informed and civically engaged citizens and to advocate for a more inclusive democracy through increasing student voter registration and turnout rates across all of our campuses and, in turn, the nation.

The Ivy League Voting Challenge aims to increase student voter turnout of eligible students by advancing nonpartisan civic learning, political engagement, and student voter participation on each of the 8 campuses. Stakeholders from each of the campuses will participate in a community of practice designed to support collaboration, innovation, and resource sharing across the Ivy League institutions.

The initiative grew out of inspiration from Kevin Ballen, an undergraduate student at Harvard University. “The idea for the Ivy League Challenge stemmed from the desire to share tactics and strategies to help one another make strides towards reaching full voter participation on our respective campuses,” said Kevin Ballen’22, co-chair Harvard Votes Challenge. “Plus, who doesn’t love a little competition? Game on, Yale!”

The Ivy League Votes Challenge was brought to fruition in Spring 2020 at the Institution of Politics at Harvard Kennedy School convening of Ivy League Institutions with guidance from ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge. The Ivy League Votes challenge is an entity co-organized by students, faculty, and staff at each institution. It uplifts the research and analysis of college-student voting conducted by Tufts University’s Institute for Democracy & Higher Education.

In September 2020, the Ivy League Voting Challenge was formally announced when all Ivy League Presidents signed the [Higher Education Presidents’ Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation](#). In addition, athletic coaches from all 8 institutions have signed the

National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) & ALL IN Challenge's [Coaches' Voter Registration and Engagement Pledge](#).

The inaugural effort aims to increase the voter registration and turnout participation of Ivy League students. The initiative is modeled, in part, on two nonpartisan college voter engagement efforts; [Southern Conference \(SoCon\) Votes](#) and the [Big Ten Voting Challenge](#) that seek to increase civic and voter participation amongst eligible college students.

Jennifer Domagal-Goldman, executive director of the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, says initiatives like the Ivy League Voting Challenge and the other ALL IN athletic conference voting challenges “provide space for institutions within an athletic conference to harness energy about voting and move toward institutionalizing engagement each academic year.”

The Ivy League Voting Challenge will support voting efforts to encourage more than 100,000 college students on 8 campuses to participate in our electoral process. Participating campuses have appointed a campus administrator to help establish and lead a campus-wide nonpartisan democratic engagement coalition of dedicated students, faculty, staff, and community partners. Additionally each of the 8 campuses commits to participating in the [National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement](#), conducted by Tufts University, which provides more than 1,100 participating colleges and universities an opportunity to learn their student registration and voting rates.

ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge

Since 2016 the [ALL In Campus Democracy Challenge](#), a program of [Civic Nation](#), has been supporting and recognizing campuses committed to advancing nonpartisan democratic engagement by increasing opportunities for student civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation.