



**ANOKA-RAMSEY**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

— Student Development & Engagement —

**ALL IN** Campus  
Democracy  
Challenge

## Anoka-Ramsey Community College 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Russell Waisanen and Joyce Traczyk

### Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Anoka-Ramsey Community College in Minnesota for the 2024 election. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 election. The goals for Anoka-Ramsey Community College for the 2024 election are: **To increase ARCC student voters by 5% for 2024.**

### Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

Joyce Traczyk- Assistant Director of Student Activities and Wellness Programs

Russell Waisanen- Senior Operations Manager and Coordinator of Student Engagement at Activities

Jessica Medearis- Special Advisor to President Hanson

Clare Gibbons- Dean of Institution Effectiveness

Lisa Harris- Dean of Student Affairs

Alex Bender- Student Senate President

Tiff Kremers- Communications Specialist

Matthew Schuster- Instructor

Kristin Doneen- Instructor

Mo Janzen- Instructor

## Commitment:

Anoka-Ramsey Community College is committed to civic learning and engagement. By fostering collaboration amongst the clubs, organizations, academic programs, faculty, and staff members on campus, we work to make connections across departments and the institution.

## THE MISSION

Anoka-Ramsey Community College is an open-door, comprehensive higher education institution committed to excellence in teaching and learning. Anoka-Ramsey is committed to responding to the educational needs of its changing communities and to providing opportunities for enhancing knowledge, skills, and values in a supportive learning environment.

## THE VISION

Anoka-Ramsey Community College is committed to developing articulate, critical and creative thinkers who are responsible contributors to the community.

## THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Embedded within these goals is a commitment to quality education and student success, ultimately leading to graduation. Graduating with a degree and/or certificate benefits both career and transfer students. By graduating with a credential, students demonstrate their persistence and skills and are better prepared for the challenges of life and future studies.

## Landscape:

It was 1965 when Anoka-Ramsey Community College enrolled its first students in college. Today, more than 150,000 people have attended courses at the college that has grown to two full campuses in [Coon Rapids](#) and [Cambridge](#) and ten off-campus locations. Courses range from short-term training/certificate programs to two-year, four-year and graduate degrees. Meeting the needs of the citizens of Coon Rapids and surrounding communities remains top priority as the college constantly adjusts its strategic plan.

The Minnesota State Legislature has also passed legislation in 2023 to ensure additional accountability measures be in place at Minnesota colleges and universities. The new requirements include:

- Designation of a campus voting coordinator
- Provide registration forms to each student each semester
- Consultation with campus student government
- Accessible webpage on the college website with voter and election information
- Submission of annual campus voter engagement report/plan
- Preparation of the list of currently enrolled students
- Written agreement to the county auditor to provide student housing lists for each election year

### Important Minnesota Upcoming 2024 Election Dates & Deadlines

- Vote by mail or in person June 28th through August 12th for the Presidential Primary
- Primary Election Day- August 13th

- Vote by mail or in person September 20th through November 4th for Election Day
- Register in advance by October 15th to save time on Election Day
- Register same day on Election Day on November 5th
- Election day- November 5th

Anoka-Ramsey Community College is a public community college and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2018. Our institution is designated as the following: Predominantly White Institution.

Our campus demographic and voting data:  
Anoka-Ramsey Community College has 8,482 students.

Anoka-Ramsey Community College has authorized the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) and will receive campus voting data for the 2022 election in fall 2023. Our NSLVE authorization runs through 2033.

Our 2022 campus voting rate was 42.5%.  
Our 2022 campus voter registration rate was 71.02%.

Our 2020 campus voting rate was 71.3%.  
Our 2020 campus voter registration rate was 81.1%.

Our 2018 campus voting rate was 49.5%.  
Our 2018 campus voter registration rate was 71%.

Anoka-Ramsey Community College has been recognized by ALL IN with the following seals of recognition for past elections: 2016 Silver, 2018 Platinum, 2020 Gold, 2022 Gold.

### Goals:

Our institution's nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

- Increase student voter turnout rate to 5% in 2024 and 10% in 2026.
- Increase student voter registration rate to 10% in 2024 and 15% in 2026.

### Strategy:

Anoka-Ramsey Community College will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

1. Have Voter Bulletin boards on both campus' with QR Codes to the ARCC Student Voter information page and Register to Vote for the State of Minnesota.
2. Faculty are often the only college representative a student sees that week on campus. They may be the only person that a student knows to encourage them to vote – helping them to understand why it matters and how it can be done. Have Faculty make announcements and have class activities can be very important in promoting college resources, events and other information to get out the vote.
  - a. Create a Handout for Faculty to know the important dates
    - i. Making Classroom announcement about the important dates.
  - b. During Union meeting stress the importance of have student vote.

3. During Welcome Week, placed a QR code out to have students register to vote via their phone.
4. Constitution Day/National Register to Vote Day Have the League of Women Voters Representative on both campuses. Instructor Matthew Schuster from the Political Science department to speak about the day and why it is important.
5. During National Voter Education week on both campus 3 events, Tuesday 10/8: Float your Vote, Wednesday 10/9: Donut forget to Vote, and Thursday 10/10: Pop to the Polls. In Cambridge, LeadMN will be tabling throughout the week.
6. Coon Rapids Campus will have Register to Vote tabling with Student Senate and Instructors on Wednesday Oct 2, Monday Oct 7, and Mon Oct 14
7. Vote Early day, repeat Donut forget to vote.
8. Voting Day repeat Pop to the Polls.
9. Contact the League of Women's Voters to plan voter outreach Spring Semester
10. Research what local elections will be taking to place and educate our students about them
11. Contact LeadMN to plan voter outreach Spring Semester
12. Gain ideas during LeadMN Advocacy Day in February

### Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

Anoka-Ramsey Community College will use the National, Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement to evaluate the increase of student voting by comparing our campus voter turnout and voter registration rates to past elections to measure progress on increasing both.

The Department of Student Engagement and Activities has an evaluation form that student fill out. This form is to collect data on the number of students that attended and data on what the students learned during the event. In addition, we have a self-evaluation form to collect data on how well the event organizers thought how the event went.

### Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website <https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/anoka-technical-college/>.

Our institution has given ALL IN permission to publish our past NSLVE reports, which can also be found on our campus page above.