



Dear Chancellor White and Board of Trustees,

Only 52 percent of eligible California youth aged 18-24 were registered to vote before the November 2014 election. Even worse, only 8% of eligible youth went to the polls – a historic low. This was the lowest of any age group and an 18% decline from 2010. In the same year, the Secretary of State's office found that ***only 0.3% of the total students served by public colleges and universities in California were registered through online voter registration opportunities they were provided.***

Voting is the cornerstone of our democracy, the means of a representative government. We want to ensure that more students at our campuses register to vote, educate themselves about what is on the ballot, and participate in elections.

Accordingly, we urge you to:

- Work with the Secretary of State's office to integrate voter registration into the class registration process on our campus, so that students can easily register to vote and update their voting address if they have recently moved.
- Strengthen policies that allow for and encourage in-person, nonpartisan voter registration, voter education, and get-out-the-vote efforts by student organizations. Student organizations seeking to register students should have full access to orientation events, welcome week events, dorms, and high traffic locations to set up tables and do in person outreach.
- Do online outreach to our students to remind them to register and vote closer to the voter registration deadlines. Specifically, ensuring that we send out at least one all-campus email and multiple social media messages in the month prior to any voter registration deadline, providing a link to register to vote online.
- Support efforts to help students cast an informed ballot. Those efforts could include hosting debates on candidates or issues, hosting debate-watching parties, and helping to disperse non-partisan educational materials about the candidates and issues being voted on.
- Support efforts by local elections officials to place polling sites on our campuses.

I look forward to working with your office to encourage robust civic participation from our student body.

Sincerely,
