



Oklahoma | Campus Compact

## 2010 CAMPUS VOTE INITIATIVE

### ROUND II

#### **Informed Participation**

Designed to promote civic engagement in students, the Oklahoma Campus Compact 2010 Campus Vote Initiative kicked off with the 5-day Voter Registration Contest, September 13-17, 2010. These voter registration activities should be followed by voter education, specifically to provide information on the 11 State Questions and the candidates, and voter participation.

*Many students are registered at their home address and/or have difficulty getting to the polls on Election Day. An active campus role in assisting students with absentee voting, planned ahead, will complete the process which began with registration.*

Following this page, please find information and resources to help campuses take a proactive role in ensuring that students fulfill the promise of registration by: 1) participating in the general election; 2) in an informed manner.

**Democracy is never a final achievement. It is a call to an untiring effort.**

**John F. Kennedy**

**Someone has to do something, and it's just incredibly pathetic that it has to be us.**

**Jerry Garcia**

#### **Contact:**

Debbie Terlip, Asst. Director, Oklahoma Campus Compact  
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education  
655 Research Parkway, Suite 200  
Oklahoma City, OK 73104-3603  
405-225-9128 phone, 405-225-9230 fax  
[dterlip@osrhe.edu](mailto:dterlip@osrhe.edu)  
[www.okhighered.org](http://www.okhighered.org)

#### **Voting is Habit-Forming**

Research shows that successful mobilization in one election raises people's propensity to vote in subsequent elections.

## **Voter Education**

### **Oklahoma has 11 State Questions on the 2010 General Election Ballot.**

Campuses can help bring informative materials about these issues and the candidates to students' attention.

- The Oklahoma State Senate Staff has compiled an informative overview of the State Questions, available to the public through the following link:  
[http://www.oksenate.gov/publications/legislative\\_briefs/legis\\_brief\\_2010/2010\\_brief\\_index.html](http://www.oksenate.gov/publications/legislative_briefs/legis_brief_2010/2010_brief_index.html)
- Students can access candidate identification from the Oklahoma State Election Board through the following link: <http://www.ok.gov/elections/>
- Information on candidates is available at multiple sites on the internet, beginning with the candidates' websites.

### **Early Voting (absentee and in-person) and Election Day Voting**

The campus can play a prominent role in promoting civic engagement through assistance with voter participation. The assistance includes making students aware of the Early Voting procedure in Oklahoma.

Voters may vote early at the [County Election Board](#) office in the county where the voter is registered to vote.

#### **Early Voting Dates for the November 2<sup>nd</sup> General Election**

Friday, October 29 8 AM - 6 PM

Saturday, October 30 8 AM - 1 PM

Monday, November 1 8 AM - 6 PM

#### **Absentee Voting**

*The Absentee Voting process is especially difficult for students, as it requires use of the mail and requires a notary public. Students do not typically carry a supply of stamps and envelopes, nor know how to access a notary. Campuses can be most useful in promoting civic engagement through voter participation by assisting with this process, and making stamps, envelopes, and notaries available to students in a timely manner.*

Complete information on absentee voting is available through the Oklahoma State Election Board website: [http://www.ok.gov/elections/Absentee\\_Voting/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/elections/Absentee_Voting/index.html).

**Applications for absentee ballots must be made in writing.** Absentee ballot application forms can be downloaded from the Oklahoma State Election Board [here](#).

- The application must be submitted to the **County Election Board where the student is registered to vote** by mail, fax, or in person.
- Applications may not be hand delivered for someone else.

**The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot to be mailed to a voter is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Submitting the Ballot**

- If the absentee ballot is mailed to the voter, the voter must return it to the county election board by **mail**.
- The affidavit envelop must be **notarized**.

An absentee ballot must be received by the **county election board where the student is registered to vote** before 7 p.m. on election day, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, to be counted.

- A postmark will not suffice, the ballot must be in the hands of the County Election Board where the student is registered to vote by 7 p.m.
- A ballot cannot be hand delivered.

### **How Campuses Can Help**

*Beyond providing this information, campuses can make stamps, envelopes, and notaries available to students. These services can make the difference.*

#### **A Trend is Underway for Youth Voting**

Students can be motivated to vote in non-presidential elections. In the 2006 congressional elections, the voter turnout rate among 18-to-29-year-olds increased by three percentage points compared to the previous congressional election of 2002.