

Civic Challenges

Try out these games and activities with your team before hosting a voter registration drive! These are a great option to help prepare everyone with answers to common questions from student voters.

Civics Double Dare

Instructions:

- Divide the group into four teams.
- Host asks the teams civics trivia questions in turn. Questions are originally worth 10 points. If a team doesn't know the answer, they "dare" the next team.
- The next team can either answer the question for double the points (20), or "double dare" the third team for triple the points (30).
- The third team either has to answer the question, or they can choose a "physical challenge." If a team answers a question wrong, they lose five points.
- All three teams send a representative (or two depending on the challenge) to participate in physical challenges. Physical challenges are worth 50 points.
- Whichever team reaches 150 points first wins!

Civics trivia questions:

- What is Washington's primary election system called? (**Top Two**)
- How many languages are Washington State voter registration forms available in? (**eight**- English, Chinese, Spanish, Cambodian, Korean, Laotian, Russian and Vietnamese)
- What are the four ways to register to vote in Washington? (**online, paper form via mail, in person, or at the DOL**)
- What are three places you can find information about the measures and races that appear on your ballot? (**Voters' Pamphlet, online Voters' Guide, local newspapers or county pamphlets**)
- What is the deadline to register or change an address before an election? (**30 days**)
- After a voter registration drive, how many days do you have to return the completed forms you've collected? (**one week/five business days**)
- What publicly elected official presides over elections at the county level? (**County Auditor**)
- How many elected members are there in the Washington State House of Representatives? (**97**)
- What online tool can Washington State voters use to register for the first time, change their address and view their voting history? (**MyVote**)
- What was the last group to gain voting rights in Washington? (**18 year olds**)
- If you're an out of state student, in how many places can you be registered to vote? (**one**- must choose home or school)

Physical challenges:

- **WA State Pictionary:** Each team sends up a representative. The rep draws a word out of a hat and has to draw a picture of that item. The words will all be Washington themed such as the state symbol, the Goldfinch, Mt. Rainier, etc. Whichever team guesses their picture correctly first wins. (This can also be done with PlayDoh or clay as a sculpting activity instead of drawing)
- **Ballot drop box:** Each team sends up a representative. The reps are each given three ballots to make into paper planes. At the opposite end of the stage, there is a cardboard box labeled “ballot drop box.” Whichever rep is able to get their ballot plane into the cardboard ballot drop box first wins. (Make this a two person activity and have another team mate hold the drop box)
- **Rhyme time:** Each team sends up a representative. The reps have thirty seconds to come up with as many words as possible that rhyme with the word “vote” and write them on their poster. Whoever comes up with the most words when time is up wins. (This can also be done in teams of two).
- **Campaign crawl:** This is a relay race where each team will have to go through the basic steps of filing for candidacy. First, a representative for each team will have to gather five signatures on their petition from other team members. The last person to sign must then run the petition to the other side of the room to “file” for candidacy by putting it in a folder held by a third team member. After the petition is in the folder, the third team member “campaigns” by taking a pack of stickers (found in the folder) and sticking them to ten members of their team. The last of person to get a sticker must crawl to back the original person who circulated the petition. Whatever team reaches the original person first wins!
- **Elections Catchphrase:** This is played just like regular catchphrase but with fun voting and elections words! Each team sends up one representative. Each person is given a stack of elections and voting terms. The emcee starts a timer and the two representatives take turns describing a word to their team. When a team guesses the word correctly, it is the other team’s turn. When the buzzer on the timer goes off, the person who is not describing at that time wins for their team.

Fact or Crap

Instructions:

- Divide the group into teams. This game works best with two teams but can be played with more.
- Each team selects a spokesperson.
- The MC reads a statement. Each team helps their spokesperson decide if the statement is true or false by calling out “fact” or “crap.”
- Ultimately, it’s up to the spokesperson to make a call and answer for their team. Each correct answer earns a point for that team.

Voter registration statements

- **I can list my dorm room as my address when I register to vote.**

Fact: If you live on campus, you may list your dorm room or campus apartment as your residential address. PO boxes may not be used as residential addresses, but can be used as mailing addresses.

- **I cannot register to vote in Washington if I am an out of state student.**
Crap: You may register to vote if you have lived in Washington at least 30 days. You must use your Washington address as your residential address. You may vote in only one state.
- **In Washington, you have the choice of voting with an absentee ballot or going to a poll site.**
Crap: Washington is an entirely vote by mail state. Mail elections are an alternative to polling place voting. Prior to each election a ballot is automatically mailed to every eligible registered voter to the address on record.
- **I can register to vote online.**
Fact: With our new MyVote system, it's easy to register to vote online. With MyVote you can also update your address, look up your representatives, view your voting history, etc.
- **When you register to vote in Washington, you must also register with a political party.**
Crap: Washington State does not register voters according to political party.
- **Paper voter registration forms are available in eight languages.**
Fact: We offer voter registration forms in English, Chinese, Spanish, Cambodian, Korean, Laotian, Russian and Vietnamese.
- **Unlike most other states, Washington does not have nominating primary elections.**
Fact: Almost all other states in the country conduct nominating Primary Elections. In these states, the primary is for the political parties, because the purpose of the primary is to select each political party's nominee who will represent the party in the General Election.

In Washington, the primary is for the voters and candidates because the purpose is simply to winnow the number of candidates down to two. The candidates are not representing any political party when they appear on the ballot; they are only representing themselves. Candidates have great freedom to describe the party that they prefer.
- **Tie breaker: What is Washington's primary election system called?**
Top Two (see explanation in previous question)