

VOTER EDUCATION, REGISTRATION, and ACTION

Spring-Fall 2016



Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves — and the only way they could do this is by not voting. - Franklin D. Roosevelt (1934)

VOTER EDUCATION TIMELINE

Spring-Summer 2016: Have your program sign up for VERA at <http://www.nelrc.org/VERA>. From that site, you can access resources to orient the program to VERA, and find up-to-date resources and activities for the classroom. During this period, voters should make sure they are registered to vote (check your state's deadline for voter registration at <http://www.nelrc.org/VERA/statelinks.html>). Note that there are state primaries in Maine, Connecticut, and Vermont over the summer.

Early September: Kick-off VERA at your staff meeting to get everyone engaged with voter education and VOTING! Note that there are state primaries in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

September-October: Use VERA resources to educate adults about the history of voting, the electoral process, the candidate positions, and any new state requirements for voting (such as voter IDs). Be sure every student and staff member has a voting plan, knows how to register, has appropriate documentation for registration, knows where to vote, has seen a sample ballot, knows when they will vote (before work/school, etc.), has transportation to the polls, etc.

October 24-28: This week, be part of a New England-wide mock election by organizing a mock election at your program and reporting the outcomes to Andy Nash (anash@worlded.org) so we can see (and publicize) how New England adult learners are voting and how their results compare to the national election. Steps for holding a mock election will be available on the Classroom Resources page.

November 8: GENERAL ELECTION - VOTE!

November 9-11: After the election, survey the number of students who registered, voted, and the number of first-time voters; report your results online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VERA2016reporting> to find out how adult learners in each state and New England voted.