



Voter Registration Can Support Student Citizenship

A vital goal of public education is to prepare students to become active, informed citizens in our democracy. One effective strategy for doing so is making sure high school students register to vote.

Most California high school students don't register to vote before graduation.

- Although 16- and 17-year olds can pre-register to vote, as of December 2025, fewer than 12% had done so.
- California encourages school officials to support high school student voter registration drives in the spring and fall but local actions are often lacking.

California PTAs have a partner who makes student voter registration easier.



The Civics Center, a California-based non-partisan organization, is on a mission to make voter registration part of every high school. They provide, for free, all the tools necessary for students, PTAs, educators, and advocates to make it happen.

Students who want to run voter registration drives get:

- Free online training, with sessions happening throughout the school year,
- Democracy-in-a-Box kits with all the materials needed, and
- Special incentives for the student leaders who put the drive together.
- Get more information [HERE](#).

PTA leaders and school staff who step up to support students get:

- Free training, plus the option of one-to-one conversations with experts from The Civics Center to get questions answered.
- A toolkit with information about California voter registration laws
- Guides to support students, which explain how to run a drive, provide a checklist of the tasks for students to manage, and worksheets to help you and your students keep track of laws, deadlines, and your to-do list when organizing.
- Get more information [HERE](#).

Advocates who want to raise awareness and get support from school district officials get:

- Customized letter templates to spread the word to students, teachers and school principals, school district officials, and influential friends.
- A sample school district resolution to encourage administrators and board members to set explicit policy.
- A guide to additional steps you can take.
- Get more information [HERE](#).

Get Resources: Visit capta.org for PTA-specific guidance on voter registration, elections, candidate forum planning, ballot issues, current legislation and more.

