



NEW MILLENNIUM STATE PRACTICES SURVEY

August 2005

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: HOW DO WE REACH YOUNG VOTERS?

The right to vote is often heralded as one of the most fundamental rights enjoyed by citizens of democracies, and yet a significant number of young Americans remain on the sidelines when Election Day arrives. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, only 41.9 percent of 18 to 24-year-olds cast ballots in the 2004 presidential election. That's compared to 58 percent of the general population and 52 percent of 25 to 44-year-olds who voted in the same election.

Low turnout rates among young people are not a new phenomenon. Close to fifty percent of 18 to 24-year-olds voted in 1972 when the voting age was first lowered to 18, but since then this age group's voting rates have declined. Turnout in 2000, one of the closest presidential contests in our nation's history, was only slightly higher than in 1996, the year with the lowest turnout since the U.S. Census Bureau began recording the figures in 1964.

And while more young Americans participated in 2004 than in 2000, the increase in turnout by less than six percentage points was smaller than what the dozens of groups working to register young voters had hoped it would be.

According to a 1998 survey conducted by the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS), most young non-voters don't participate because they don't believe their votes will make a difference, or they don't have enough information about the candidates. And while youth volunteerism is on the rise – close to 60 percent of the survey participants said they volunteer regularly – that same sense of civic responsibility just isn't enough to get them to the polls on Election Day.

NASS and the thirty-nine secretaries who serve as chief state election officials believe more can be done to reach these disconnected citizens. That's why NASS established the New Millennium Young Voters Project in 1998, and it's why we continue to identify the new and creative ways in which states are reaching out to young Americans.

This year we found that more states than ever before are working to engage eligible young voters. This 2005 New Millennium State Practices Survey provides a snapshot of the states' many youth outreach efforts nationwide.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Forty states participated in this year's NASS New Millennium State Practices Survey. The following statistics are based on their responses.

Youth Outreach Programs

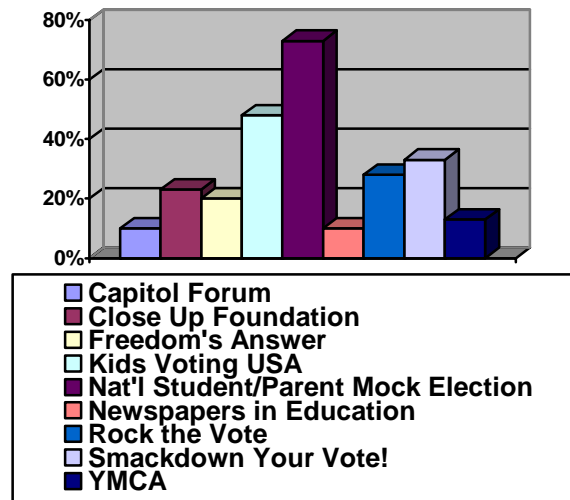
Almost every state NASS surveyed is actively working to engage young people. Ninety-eight percent of the states have either established their own youth outreach programs or partner with national organizations to reach young people.

National Partnerships

Most states have expanded their efforts to increase civic participation among young people through partnerships with national nonpartisan, nonprofit voter outreach organizations. Ninety-eight percent of state offices cooperate with one or more of these groups.

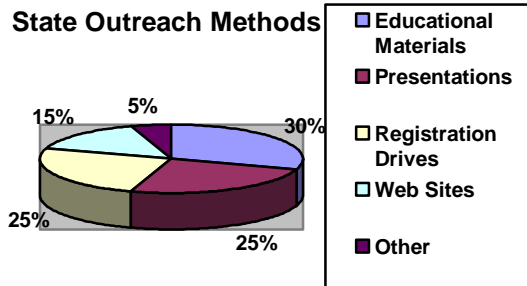
Nine of these organizations work with 10 percent or more of the states NASS surveyed. The most popular group, National Student/Parent Mock Election, partners with 73 percent of the survey respondents. Kids Voting USA is the second most popular group with a 48 percent partnership rate.

States Partnering with Outreach Groups



Outreach Methods

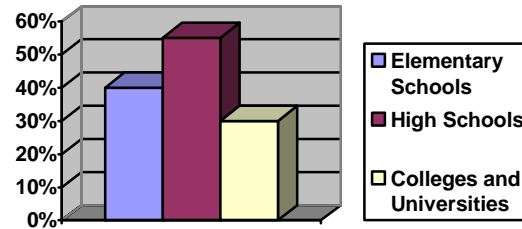
The states use a variety of different methods to communicate with eligible young voters. The most common are educational materials and civics curriculum, presentations at area schools, voter registration drives and Web sites.



Outreach Through Education

Sixty-three percent of the states NASS surveyed work directly with schools to reach young people. High schools are the most popular, followed by elementary schools and colleges and universities.

States Working with Schools



Young Poll Workers

According to reports released before the 2004 elections, the country was expected to fall half a million short of the two million people needed to work the polls on Election Day. Recruiting poll workers has long been a challenge for the states. Now, seventy-nine percent of them are attempting to address the shortage by hiring poll workers under the age of 18. More states are considering laws that would allow them to recruit and hire young people, a practice that is endorsed by some as another way to engage this age group.

Election Day Registration

Fifteen percent of the survey respondents either allow voters to register on Election Day or do not require voters to register at all.

POLL WORKER LAWS BY STATE

This list includes only the states that responded to the survey

States Allows Poll Workers Younger than 18 Years of Age	YES	NO
Alabama		x
Alaska		x
Arizona		x
Arkansas	x	
California	x	
Colorado	x	
Connecticut	x	
Delaware		x
Florida	x	
Georgia	x	
Hawaii	x	
Idaho	x	
Illinois	x	
Indiana	x	
Iowa		x
Kansas	x	
Louisiana		x
Maine	x	
Maryland	x	
Michigan	x	
Minnesota	x	
Mississippi	x	
Missouri	x	
Montana	x	
Nebraska	x	
Nevada	x	
New Hampshire	x	
New Mexico		x
North Carolina	x	
North Dakota	x	
Ohio		x
Pennsylvania	x	
Rhode Island		x
South Carolina	x	
Texas		x
Utah	x	
Vermont	x	
Washington	x	
West Virginia	x	
Wyoming	x	

ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION LAWS BY STATE

*This list includes only the states that responded to the survey. *Indicates state with no voter registration required.*

State Offers Election Day Registration	YES	NO
Alabama		X
Alaska		X
Arizona		X
Arkansas		X
California		X
Colorado		X
Connecticut		X
Delaware		X
Florida		X
Georgia		X
Hawaii		X
Idaho	x	
Illinois		X
Indiana		X
Iowa		X
Kansas		X
Louisiana		X
Maine	x	
Maryland		X
Michigan		X
Minnesota	x	
Missouri		X
Mississippi		X
Montana		X
North Carolina		X
North Dakota*	n/a	
Nebraska		X
New Hampshire	x	
New Mexico		X
Nevada		X
Ohio		X
Pennsylvania		X
Rhode Island		X
South Carolina		X
Texas		X
Utah		X
Vermont		X
Washington		X
West Virginia		X
Wyoming	x	

STATE PROFILES

ALABAMA

Secretary of State	Nancy L. Worley
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General Counsel	Trey Granger

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

National Student/Parent Mock Election, Smackdown Your Vote!

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

During the 2004 election, Alabama launched their statewide Take a Kid To Vote program with a play on the capitol steps featuring a live goat in the role of the "kid." The Secretary of State distributed a voting workbook for kids that was created by a group of Alabama teachers, and held a series of assemblies at elementary schools throughout the state.

The Secretary and her staff also visit universities and high schools to distribute mail-in registration forms. The secretary mailed letters to every school system's government teachers that included voter registration forms and voter education materials.

ALASKA

Lt. Governor Loren Leman
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Juneau, AK 99811-0015
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Email loren_leman@gov.state.ak.us
Director of Elections Laura A. Glaiser

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The State of Alaska recently passed legislation that allows state residents younger than 18 to serve as poll workers. In 2004, the state focused on recruiting 16-year-olds to work the polls and the Office of the Lieutenant Governor will again focus its efforts on recruiting young poll workers in 2006.

In 2002, the state established the Alaska Democracy Project to educate students about the responsibilities of citizenship. The Project Web site included tips for raising good citizens, civic education links and resources.

The Lieutenant Governor's Office conducted Let's Vote Alaska in 2000, a statewide, nonpartisan initiative designed to increase turnout among 18 to 24-year-olds. The program boosted turnout in this age group by close to 50%.

ARIZONA

Secretary of State	Janice K. Brewer
Address	1700 W. Washington St. 7 th Floor Phoenix, AZ 85007
Phone	(602) 542-0681
Fax	(602) 542-1575
Email	jbrewer@sos.state.az.us
Outreach Coordinator	Mary Jo Kief
Election Director	Joe Kanefield

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Not currently, but state legislation that could change this was introduced in 2005.

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Declare Yourself, Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote, Smackdown Your Vote!

Statewide Outreach Programs:

The Secretary of State's Office sends each state resident a birthday card and a voter registration form on his/her 18th birthday. The Office also conducts voter registration drives statewide and, in 2004, partnered with Kids Voting and National Student/Parent Mock Election to educate students on the importance of voting.

Also in 2004, Secretary Brewer joined corporate, government and education leaders nationwide to introduce the new Declare Yourself campaign to get more young adults interested in voting.

ARKANSAS

Secretary of State	Charlie Daniels
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Fax	(501) 682-3510
Email	general_info@sosmail.state.ar.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Carder Hawkins
Election Director	Jill Belin

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Freedom's Answer, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote, Smackdown Your Vote!

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The State of Arkansas launched Energetic Leadership Educating Citizens Together (ELECT) in 2004, a program designed to engage young people and encourage them to vote. The state also conducts young voter registration drives.

CALIFORNIA

Secretary of State Bruce McPherson
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Fax (916) 653-9675
Email constituentaffairs@sos.state.ca.gov
Youth Outreach Coordinator John Mott Smith
Election Director Brad Clark

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Close up Foundation, Freedom's Answer, Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote, Smackdown Your Vote!, YMCA

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

California mails more than 30,000 18th birthday cards each year to state residents to encourage them to register to vote. The state provides voter registration cards to high schools and colleges and coordinates Education Day as a part of their Voter Registration Week. The Secretary of State's office also coordinates Community Involvement & Voting Information in Classroom Studies, or C.I.V.I.C.S, a high school poll worker program.

COLORADO

Secretary of State Donetta Davidson
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Youth Outreach Coordinator Amy Naccarato
State Election Director Bill Compton

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Freedom's Answer, Kids Voting USA, New Voters Project

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Colorado sends voter registration forms and other voting information to colleges and universities each presidential election year.

CONNECTICUT

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Youth Outreach Coordinator Kristen Moreland
State Election Director Michael Kozik

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Capitol Forum, Close Up Foundation, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Newspapers in Education, Rock the Vote, Smackdown Your Vote!

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Each township in Connecticut elects two registrars of voters who help the state engage young people in the electoral process. The Office of the Secretary also conducts regular college visits to bring the message of voter participation to youth.

Connecticut's voter registration applications include a box that young voters may check to indicate their interest in working at the polls on Election Day.

DELAWARE

Chief State Election Official Frank B. Calio
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Dover, DE 19904
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Fax (302) 739-6794
Email fcalio@state.de.us

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Commissioner of Elections created civic education steering and advisory committees composed of the Delaware Department of Education, the Governor's Office, the Secretary of State's Office, the League of Women Voters, parents and teachers.

The Delaware Mock Election is held every even-numbered year using the current election year ballot. Delaware Teachers prepared the accompanying curriculum for grades four through 12. The program will soon be expanded to include Kindergarten through third grade.

FLORIDA

Secretary of State Glenda E. Hood
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500 S. Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone (850) 245-6500
Fax (850) 245-6217
Election Director Dawn Kimmel Roberts

Youth outreach program? Yes, conducted by the counties

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Voter registration is offered on the Secretary of State's Web site. Counties offer various programs for youth, and are required to conduct both high school and college voter registration education programs at least once a year in each public high school and on every college campus.

GEORGIA

Secretary of State	Cathy Cox
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Fax	(404) 656-0513
Email	abmccullick@sos.state.ga.us
Statewide Voter Education Coordinator	Alison Bracewell McCullick
Election Director	Kathy Rogers

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Center for Civic Education, Close Up Foundation, Georgia Council for the Social Studies, Georgia Public Broadcasting, Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

A new law in Georgia allows grandparents to take grandchildren ages 12 and under to the polls with them. The Secretary's Office encourages grandparents to take their grandchildren to the polls, and has prepared an educational activity booklet that describes the different aspects of elections, with worksheets that can be completed with assistance from grandparents, as well as by the child alone.

The Office has also developed three versions of a voting bingo game that is utilized across the state: Voting Bingo (generic), Black History Voting Bingo (throughout February), and Women's History Voting Bingo (throughout March). Aimed at elementary school students, the games teach basic voting terms and concepts.

Representatives of the Department of State visit schools around the state, speak with students about the importance of participating in the electoral process, demonstrate voting equipment, and register eligible students.

Georgia works with college students through classroom discussions, public service announcements and brochures designed to promote civic participation. In 2004, Georgia provided college IT departments with two screen savers that encouraged students to vote on Election Day. In 2005, Georgia worked with campus orientation staff members to include information about voting in freshmen packets.

Georgia also conducts college voter registration competitions. In 2005, the program will be expanded to include at least 30 college and technical school campuses, specifically during the months of September and October. Department of State representatives will work with student groups on campus to organize voter registration drives, debates between local politicians/government officials and letter writing campaigns.

In 2000, Georgia created an Honoring Vets with Votes program. During the program's first year, the state surveyed veterans and shared the collected information with young people and encouraged them to vote in honor of "their" veterans. The program was expanded to include a

Web site in 2002, and in 2003, the state worked with three high schools to encourage interaction between students and veterans.

The Secretary's Office distributes a brochure at high schools and voter registration drives that is designed to encourage young people to serve as poll workers. The brochure is used by all 159 counties in Georgia, and the State School Superintendent has encouraged schools to give students an excused absence when they work in the polls.

In January 2006, the Secretary of State's Office will host the third annual College Day at the Capitol. The Office hopes to host more than 150 students as they learn first-hand about the legislative process, speak one-on-one with legislators and governmental leaders, and network with peers who are interested in becoming more civically active in their communities.

HAWAII

Chief Elections Officer	Dwayne D. Yoshina
Address	802 Lehua Avenue Pearl City, Hawaii
Phone	(808) 453-8683
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Email	elect@aloha.net
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Rex Quidilla

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, Smackdown Your Vote!

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Hawaii Department of Education, Kids Voting Hawaii, and the Office of Elections created a voting-related curriculum guide and make it available to teachers statewide.

The Office of Elections provides voter education statewide and works to boost voter registration in districts with low voter turnout rates. The Office of Elections in Hawaii also provides voter education materials to community organizations that serve young adults.

IDAHO

Secretary of State	Ben Ysursa
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Email	bysursa@idsos.state.id.us
Chief Deputy	Tim Hurst

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? Yes

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program

The Office of the Secretary of State works with the State Department of Education to coordinate outreach activities with students and teachers, including the development and distribution of a comprehensive course in government and civics on CD-ROM for 12th grade students.

The state distributed Idaho Blue Books in print and on CD-ROM to all civics classes in the state as a resource for teaching government. The state also continues to sponsor an online Idaho Student Mock Election for 12th grade students.

The Office of Idaho's Secretary of State mails registration cards to 18-year-olds on their birthdays.

The state also encourages students to serve as poll workers by providing a course of study for student election workers and making it available to schools. The state encourages counties to use 17-year-olds as door openers and greeters at the polls and provides funding for student wages.

ILLINOIS

Chief State Election Officer Dan White
Address State Board of Elections
1020 S. Spring Street
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone (217) 782-4141
Fax (217) 524-5574
Email bglazier@elections.state.il.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator Becky Glazier

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Freedom's Answer, Kids Voting

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Illinois State Board of Elections holds a statewide mock election program for fourth through 12th graders in cooperation with Kids Voting USA and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The state also runs a mock election for students in kindergarten through third grade. The program uses animals as candidates and provides teachers with background materials, coloring books and an optional ballot for the state's gubernatorial race. The teacher's guide includes an appendix with suggested ballots, polling place signs, word puzzles based on election terminology, and a polling place maze.

INDIANA

Secretary of State Todd Rokita
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Indianapolis, IN 46204
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Fax (317) 233-3283
Email trokita@sos.state.in.us
HAVA Administrator Joseph McLain
Co-Directors of Elections Brad King/Kristi Robertson

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Freedom's Answer, Indiana Kids' Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Office of the Secretary produced educational material designed to educate Indiana's young voter population, including a video intended for young voters regarding their civic responsibility and opportunities to get involved. The video was mailed to every high school and library in the state in addition to each Circuit Court Clerk's office.

The Office of Indiana's Secretary of State distributed a first-time voter's guide to new voters and young voters at outreach opportunities. All 92 counties were provided copies for distribution to high schools.

Secretary Rokita also speaks to high school civics classes about voting and elections in general.

The state plans to further expand their youth outreach programs before the 2006 elections.

IOWA

Secretary of State	Chet Culver
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Fax	(515) 242-5952
Email	sos@sos.state.ia.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Laura Larkin White
Director of Elections	Sandy Steinbach

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Not currently, but state legislation that would change this was introduced in 2005.

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Close Up Foundation, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Newspapers in Education, YMCA

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Secretary's Office works with the Iowa Student Political Awareness Club (ISPAC), a nonpartisan, statewide civic education program that works to increase political awareness and participation among young people. ISPAC programs include a mock election, legislative youth forums and visits to the capitol for high school and middle school classes.

KANSAS

Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh
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Topeka, KS 66612-1594
Phone (785) 296-4575
Fax (785) 368-8033
Email ront@kssos.org
Youth Outreach Coordinator Jesse Borjon
Deputy Asst for Elections Brad Bryant

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, Smackdown Your Vote!

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Kansas conducts annual voter registration drives at area colleges and at state fairs. The state also has a Student Election Worker Program that provides students with the opportunity to participate in government and learn about the electoral process.

LOUISIANA

Secretary of State	Al Alter
Address	P.O. Box 94125 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125
Phone	(225) 922-0900
Fax	(225) 922-1167
Email	cguidry@sos.louisiana.gov
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Darlene Fields
Commissioner of Elections	Angie R. LaPlace

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? The Department is currently developing educational material to use to recruit poll workers for Election Day.

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

MTV Hip Hop Summit, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Smackdown Your Vote!,
Voices for Vote

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Department of State distributes state mail voter registration application forms statewide to schools. Voter identification cards that are mailed out to new registrants include the following: "Wanted: Commissioners! Call your clerk of court for information." Louisiana reports that voters have signed-up as poll workers upon receiving the cards.

The Department of State distributes state mail voter application forms at football games, dances, concerts, etc. The Department allowed the State's voting systems to be used for high school and university student council elections.

MAINE

Secretary of State Matt Dunlap
Address 148 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0148
Phone (207) 626-8400
Fax (207) 287-8598
Email matt.dunbar@maine.gov
Youth Outreach Coordinator Doug Dunbar
Deputy Secretary of State Julie Flynn
State Outreach Contact Julie Flynn

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? Yes

National Outreach Partners

Close Up Foundation, Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Smackdown Your Vote!

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Secretary of State's office continues its two civic education initiatives: Fostering Youth Involvement (FYI) and Promote the Vote. The programs encompass a number of new projects including the Constitution Essay and Poster Contest and the state's eDemocracy Web site.

MARYLAND

Chief State Election Official Linda Lamone
Address 16 Francis Street
Annapolis, MD 21032
Phone (410) 974-5521
Fax (410) 974-5190

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The state works with the National Student/Parent Mock Election to conduct mock elections for Kindergarten through 12th graders.

MICHIGAN

Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land
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Lansing, MI 48918
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Fax (517) 373-0727
Email landt@michigan.gov
Youth Outreach Coordinator Shana Long
State Election Director Chris Thomas

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Michigan sends voter registration reminder cards to drivers when they turn 18. In even-numbered years, the Michigan Secretary of State's Office supplies the President's Council with a special registration/voter participation message for college students.

The Secretary, in cooperation with the Presidents Council of State Universities of Michigan, the Association of Independent College and Universities of Michigan and the Michigan Community College Association, sends a specially-developed email message to all university and college students that includes registration and voting information.

Michigan also has a program that permits 16 and 17-year-olds to serve as precinct inspectors.

MINNESOTA

Secretary of State Mary Kiffmeyer
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Saint Paul, MN 55155
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Email secretary.state@state.mn.us
Deputy Secretary of State Tony Kielkucki

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? Yes

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, Rock the Vote, Smackdown Your Vote!, YMCA

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Minnesota distributes an Elections 101 brochure and voter registration card to colleges. The office distributes a Teen Citizenship brochure to county auditors and schools. The brochure encourages teenagers to be involved in government in a variety of ways.

The Office of the Secretary runs public service announcements to encourage young people to register and vote. The Office has programs, including videos and brochures, that encourage college students to serve as election judges and encourage 16- and 17-year-olds to serve as election judge trainees.

MISSISSIPPI

Secretary of State	Eric Clark
Address	P.O. Box 136 Jackson, MS 39205
Phone	(601) 359-6346
Fax	(404) 359-6346
Email	administrator@sos.state.ms.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Rebecca Huston
Asst. Secretary of State	Jay Eads

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Mississippi Secretary of State sponsors Promote the Vote, a K-12 voter education program that teaches young citizens in and about the democratic process and includes a statewide mock election. The program offers a full curriculum for teachers that is designed to be developmentally appropriate and unique to each grade level.

The state's program has been recognized by CNN, Time and the National Student/Parent Mock Election as one of the best in the country.

MISSOURI

Secretary of State Robin Carnahan
Address 600 West Main St.
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone 573) 751-2301
Fax (573) 526-3242
Email elections1@sos.mo.gov
Youth Outreach Coordinator Ken Murdock
Deputy Secretary of State Leslye M. Winslow

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll Worker/ Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, First Vote Foundation, Center for Civic Education

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Missouri's Secretary of State and elections staff speak to youth groups regularly about civic responsibility. The election division makes resources and training information available to young voters as part of the youth election participant program.

MONTANA

Secretary of State Brad Johnson
Address PO Box 2002801
Helena, MT 59620
Phone (406) 444-2034
Fax (406) 444-2023
Email sos@state.mt.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator Alan Miller
Deputy for Elections Elaine Gravely

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Close Up Foundation, Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Freedom's Answer

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Office of Montana's Secretary of State is currently developing programs for 2006.

NEBRASKA

Secretary of State John A. Gale
Address State Capitol, Suite 2300
Lincoln, NE 68502
Phone (402) 471-3229
Fax (402) 471-3237
Email jgale@nol.org
Youth Outreach Coordinator Sharon Hambek
Assistant Secretary of State Neal Erickson

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Capitol Forum, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Newspapers in Education

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Nebraska gives special recognition to poll workers younger than 18. Each of the state's five voting districts submits the names of these young people after an election. One name is drawn from each district and that poll worker is awarded a \$50 savings bond.

Nebraska coordinates Nebraska Student Vote, a civic engagement program that provides a civics curriculum to the state's teachers. The Secretary also travels the state and visits with elementary and high school students.

NEVADA

Secretary of State	Dean Heller
Address	100 N. Carson St. Carson City, NV 89701
Phone	(775) 684-5705
Fax	(775) 684-5718
Email	rlmoore@sosmail.state.nv.us
Youth Outreach Coordinators	Steve George and Lindy Johnson
State Election Director	Ellick Hsu

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

New state legislation, effective October 1, 2003, established the Committee for Participatory Democracy as a project of the Secretary of State's Office. One of the goals of this committee is to focus on youth voter outreach. The state is working now to select the Committee, and reports that many young people have already expressed an interest in serving on the youth sub-committee.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Secretary of State William M. Gardner
Address Room 204 State House
Concord, NH 03301
Phone (603) 271-5335
Fax (603) 271-7933
Email elections@sos.state.nh.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator Ellen Dube
Assistant Secretary of State Anthony Stevens

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? Yes

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

New Hampshire provides outreach materials to high schools and to Boys and Girls State youth government programs.

NEW MEXICO

Secretary of State Rebecca Vigil-Giron
Address State Capitol North Annex, Suite 300
Santa Fe, NM 87503
Phone (505) 827-3600
Fax (505) 827-8081
Youth Outreach Coordinator Ernest Ortega
Director of Elections Ernest Marquez

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

New Mexico launched an aggressive voter outreach and education campaign in 2004 that included a special emphasis on young voters.

NORTH CAROLINA

Chief State Election Official Gary Bartlett
Address NC State Board of Elections
P.O. Box 27255
Raleigh, NC 27611
Phone (919) 733-7173
Fax (919) 715-0135
Email gary.bartlett@ncmail.net
Youth Outreach Coordinator Amy E. Strange

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Kids Voting USA, League of Women Voters, National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The North Carolina State Board of Elections and North Carolina Community College system collaborate on a civic engagement program that offers an in-depth elections and civics curriculum. It is the Board of Elections' hope that it will empower more young people to participate in the voting process and generate new poll workers.

North Carolina County Boards of Elections officials visit schools to encourage voter registration and civic responsibility and to recruit student poll workers.

NORTH DAKOTA

Secretary of State Al Jaeger
Address 600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 108
Bismarck, ND 58505-0500
Phone (701) 328-2900
Fax (701) 328-2992
Email ajaeger@state.nd.us
State Election Director Jim Silrum

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? Voters in North Dakota are not required to register

National Outreach Partners

Close Up Foundation, Declare Yourself, Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote

OHIO

Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell
Address 180 E. Broad St., 15th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone (614) 466-2585
Fax (614) 752-4360
Email blackwell@sos.state.oh.us
State Election Director Patricia Wolfe

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote, Smackdown Your Vote!, YMCA

Statewide Outreach Programs

Ohio produces a publication that encourages 18-24 year olds to register and vote and to volunteer to work the polls on Election Day. The Secretary also visits high school civics classes throughout the state to give presentations about the importance of voting.

PENNSYLVANIA

Secretary of the Commonwealth	Pedro A. Cortés
Address	302 North Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17120
Phone	(717) 787-6458
Fax	(717) 787-1734
Email	pcortes@state.pa.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Allison Deibert
Commissioner of Elections	Harry VanSickle

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

National Student/Parent Mock Election, Council for Excellence in Government

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania conducts a student mock election program with assistance from the National Student/Parent Mock Election and the Department of Education. The program is held every two years during the general election to help educate school-age youth about the voting process.

Pennsylvania launched the Student Voices Project, a non-partisan initiative of Governor Edward G. Rendell, in March 2003 to educate youth about the importance of voting and civic engagement.

Pennsylvania's Governor Rendell and the Department of State launched a voter registration program in 2004 aimed at graduating high school seniors. Voter registration applications were sent to every public and private high school in the state.

In partnership with Pennsylvania's Departments of Education and Military Affairs, the Department of State sponsors a Vote with a Vet – Register and Vote program. The program's goal is to encourage voter participation among high school students who are eligible to vote, while teaching young people about the state's veterans and their sacrifices.

RHODE ISLAND

Secretary of State Matthew Brown
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Providence, RI 02903
Phone (401) 222-2357
Fax (401) 222-1356
Email mbrown@sec.state.ri.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator Allyson M. Hawkins
Exec. Dir., Board of Elections Robert Kando

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

National Outreach Partner

Capitol Forum

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Rhode Island Secretary of State developed Civics 101, a civics curriculum for high school students. The curriculum focuses on the history of democracy in the U.S., introduces a step-by-step guide to our electoral system and aims to engage students in the practice of voting.

The Rhode Island Secretary of State also produces an activity guide for children that details the history of the Rhode Island State House and provides information on the General Assembly and executive elected officials.

The Secretary of State holds mock and student government elections for high schools throughout the state using optical scan voting equipment. The Secretary also visits schools throughout the state to impress upon young people the importance of voting and civic participation.

The Secretary of State sends emails to college students before primary and general elections encouraging them to vote.

In 2004, the Secretary's Office partnered with a local radio station and the ACTIVOTE program to target young people, and distributed coloring pages that provided children and their parents with important messages about voting.

SOUTH CAROLINA**Chief State Election Official
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Columbia, SC 29250**Phone**

(803) 734-9060

Fax

(803) 734-9366

Email

gbaum@scsec.state.sc.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator

Nell Shayler

Youth outreach program? Yes**State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18?** Yes**Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth?** Yes**Same-day registration?** No**National Outreach Partners**

Kids Voting USA, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

In South Carolina, the State Board of Elections helps county voter registration offices prepare and conduct voter registration drives at high schools and youth clubs.

TEXAS

Secretary of State	Roger Williams
Address	PO Box 12697 Capitol Building, IE.8 Austin, TX 78711
Phone	(512) 463-5770
Fax	(512) 475-2761
Email	amcgeehan@sos.state.tx.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Kim Sutton
Election Director	Ann McGeehan

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Freedom's Answer, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Rock the Vote

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Texas will release an updated version of the state's Project V.O.T.E. curriculum for pre-kindergarten through 12th grades, which will include an interactive Web site. More than half a million students participated in the state's 2004 Project V.O.T.E. mock election and, for the first time, teachers could submit election results online. CD's containing the curriculum for the student mock election were mailed to all 1,100 school districts in the state.

Graduation cards with voter registration applications were mailed to 245,606 high school graduates and 1,629 campuses statewide. High school principals distributed the cards in classrooms and during graduation ceremony exercises.

Secretary Williams visited high school campuses across the state to talk to students about the importance of voting.

UTAH

Lieutenant Governor	Gary Herbert
Address	State Capitol Complex, Suite E325 P.O. Box 142325 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
Phone	(801) 538-1041
Fax	(801) 538-1133
Email	elections@utah.gov
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Tyler Allen
State Election Director	Michael Cragun

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Capitol Forum, National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The College Council on Civic Awareness, which is made up of one representative from each college and university in Utah, meets monthly in the Lieutenant Governor's office to discuss civic awareness among 18 to 24-year-olds. Each council member also represents an organization on his or her own college campus that plans civic and voter outreach programs. The Council also coordinates an annual week-long voter registration drive that incorporates political rallies, guest speaker events, dances and barbecues.

The mission of the Council has been expanded to include a poll worker recruitment program and a training component that helps voters and election judges learn new voting technology.

VERMONT

Secretary of State	Deb Markowitz
Address	26 Terrace St. Montpelier, VT 05609
Phone	(802) 828-2148
Fax	(802) 828-2496
Email	dmarko@sec.state.vt.us
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Sarah Alberghini
State Election Director	Kathleen DeWolfe

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Close Up Foundation, Kids Voting USA, Newspapers in Education, Smackdown Your Vote!, Freedom's Answer

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Vermont's statewide mock election, Vermont Votes for Kids, targets school-age children and provides materials for teachers and students on the Web. The Secretary of State's Office distributes a first-time voters' how-to video/DVD to schools and colleges statewide. Secretary Markowitz also provides young voters with information on how to register and vote in the form of free posters, buttons and bumper stickers.

WASHINGTON

Secretary of State	Sam Reed
Address	PO Box 40220 Olympia, WA 98504
Phone	(360) 902-4180
Fax	(360) 664-4619
Email	elections@secstate.wa.gov
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Laura Sheahan
State Election Director	Nick Handy

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? No

National Outreach Partners

Smackdown Your Vote!, YMCA

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Washington has implemented an 18th Birthday Voter Registration Program. The Secretary of State sends a birthday card to state residents when they turn 18 encouraging them to register and vote.

Washington's VOTE Program provides voting and election information to children and young adults. It was designed to be an educational tool that uses the Internet to effectively deliver curriculum. Along with lesson plans, each category has a fun and games section with puzzles, quizzes and word games that build on the civic-responsibility themes.

Washington also holds two separate contests for students: an art contest for fifth graders who wish to have their art considered for the official Washington State Voters Pamphlet and an essay contest for high school seniors who write essays on why every vote counts.

WEST VIRGINIA

Secretary of State Address	Betty Ireland 1900 Kanawha Blvd East State Capitol Room 157-K Charleston, WV 25305-0770
Fax	(304)558-8386
Email	wvsos@wvsos.com
Youth Outreach Coordinator	Trudy Oliver
Election Manager	Jason Williams

National Outreach Partner

National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

The Secretary of State's Office launched the Voting is Powerful (VIP) program to increase voter participation and voter education in West Virginia. As part of the program, the Secretary conducts registration drives in most of the state's high schools, both private and public. The VIP program includes a mock election that offers students first-hand voting experience.

WYOMING

Secretary of State Joseph B. Meyer
Address Capitol Building, Room B-38
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0020
Phone (307) 777-3573
Fax (307) 777-7640
Email elections@state.wy.us
State Election Director Peggy Nighswonger

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election Day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day registration? Yes

National Outreach Partners

Close Up Foundation, National Student/Parent Mock Election

Statewide Outreach Program(s)

Wyoming residents as young as 16 years of age may volunteer to work the polls on Election Day.

PARTNERSHIP PROFILES

States partner with a wide variety of nonpartisan organizations in an effort to expand their voter outreach efforts and increase voter participation. The following are some of the national organizations that work with states to reach young, eligible voters.

Capitol Forum

Capitol Forum is a civic education initiative that engages high school students in civic practice and deliberation about current issues. The program is a collaborative effort of the Choices Education Program at Brown University, Secretaries of State and local teachers.

http://www.choices.edu/capitol_forum/index.cfm

Close Up Foundation

The Close Up Foundation is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan citizenship education organization. Close Up works to supplement students' classroom educations with in-person visits to the nation's capitol. Each year, more than 20,000 students, teachers, and other adults take part in Close Up's programs in Washington, D.C.

<http://www.closeup.org/>

Kids Voting USA

Kids Voting is a national, nonprofit civic education organization that teaches students about the importance of civic participation. The group provides classroom activities, teacher training and Web resources.

<http://www.kidsvotingusa.org/>

National Student/Parent Mock Election

The National Student/Parent Mock Election makes students and parents aware of the power of their ballot by actively involving them in a full-fledged campaign and national election.

<http://www.nationalmockelection.com/>

Newspapers in Education (NIE)

NIE provides lesson plans and other educational materials for teachers via its member-paper Web sites.

<http://nieonline.com/>

Rock the Vote

Rock the Vote is dedicated to protecting freedom of speech and helping young people realize their power to affect change in the civic and political lives of their communities.

<http://www.rockthevote.org/>

WWE's Smackdown Your Vote!!

Smackdown Your Vote! is a partnership of nonprofit organizations that work to encourage young people to register and vote. Smackdown members include the League of Women Voters, Harvard's Institute of Politics and the Youth Leadership Institute.

<http://www.smackdownyourvote.com/>

Freedom's Answer

Freedom's Answer is a non-profit, non-partisan program led by students that offers high school students opportunities to participate in the political system.

Web site unavailable.

YMCA Youth & Civic Education Programs

The YMCA Civic Engagement Initiative promotes the development of civic engagement attitudes, skills, and behaviors in young people. The initiative is designed to connect young people directly with specific civic participation opportunities.

<http://www.ymcacivicengagement.org/>

Vote for America Common Cause Education Fund

Vote for America's mission is to inspire Americans of all ages to go to the polls.

<http://www.voteforamerica.org/>