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# National group honors Rogue Community College civic action plan

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JACKSON COUNTY, Ore. -- Rogue Community College is gaining national attention for its efforts to make civic participation more accessible to students.

College officials announced Wednesday, Nov. 18, that the school received two national recognitions from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge for the 2026 election cycle. The honors include the Highly Established Action Plan Seal and the 2026 ALL IN Most Engaged Campus for College Student Voting award.

Rogue Community College is among 274 colleges and universities nationwide, and just four in Oregon, to be recognized as a Most Engaged Campus. The recognition follows the Tuesday, Nov. 3 General Election, where unofficial results from Thursday, Nov. 12 showed ballot returns reached 64.26% in Jackson County and 60.29% in Josephine County.

The college's 2026-28 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan earned at least 28 of 32 possible points under the Strengthening American Democracy Action Planning Guide Rubric. The plan focuses on equitable access to

information, student-led education, and opportunities to participate in the democratic process.

"Democracy depends on people having access to reliable information and opportunities to participate in their communities," said Joseph Maurer, director of student engagement at the college.

Maurer added that the college has an opportunity to help students understand issues affecting their lives and engage with different perspectives.

The initiative's first implementation cycle launched during fall 2026 with a three-phase approach: Know, Plan, Participate. The college will evaluate its efforts through student participation, digital engagement, and voter-participation data to improve future election cycles.

Looking ahead, the college plans to establish a cross-college Democratic Engagement Coalition and strengthen relationships with local election officials.