

STUDENT MOCK ELECTIONS PROGRAM

CITY OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA



OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK
SERVING LONG BEACH SINCE 1897

OUR MISSION

To increase future voter turnout by teaching students of all ages the importance of expressing themselves through responsible and informative voting.

To increase youth voter engagement, the Office of the City Clerk has developed a Student Mock Election program geared toward students of all ages. Working in collaboration with local schools, colleges and universities, the program walks students through the voting process from voter registration to counting the votes after Election Day.

Through the program, students receive hands on experience in registering voters, developing the ballot, planning and working on Election Day, and tallying the votes. This interactive experience answers questions such as: What is the election process? Who can vote? How do I register to vote? How do I vote? What happens at the polls? With these answers, students will have a better understanding of how to effectively participate in the democratic process.

The program is specially designed to repeatedly engage students in all aspects of the electoral process. It is our hope that students who participate in this program will, in turn, become active and engaged voters.

To find out more about the Student Mock Elections program continue reading our brochure and to sign up your school, call the Office of the City clerk at (562) 570-6101 or email cityclerk@longbeach.gov.

Sincerely,



Maria de la luz Garcia
City Clerk

Planning Your Mock Election

The Office of the City Clerk is available year-round to all Long Beach elementary, middle, and high schools; as well as, LBCC, CSULB, and community groups. The program is tailored to different age groups to provide an age-appropriate voting experience for all students.

Whether it be for student council, homecoming, or student issues, we can provide the services to make it a successful election for your students. City Clerk staff can visit classrooms or can arrange for students to visit City Hall.

Goals

- Increase understanding of the voting process (registering to vote, showing up at the polls, and being an informed voter).
- Promote a discussion of issues and candidates.
- Encourage participation in future local, state and federal elections.
- Instill the importance of municipal elections by emulating elections as closely as possible.

For more information contact the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 570-6101 or email CityClerk@longbeach.gov.

Mock Elections Can Be Held for Numerous Events

- Student Council
- Homecoming
- Current Issues
(i.e. school uniforms, lunches, programs, etc.)
- Class Officers
- Prom
- Dance Themes
- And more!

If there is a current event or legislative issue making the news, you can give your students the opportunity to debate and vote on the issue.

Up to five questions can be included on the ballot for your students to vote on.

How to Prepare

Have your candidates make campaign speeches to those who will be voting. Incorporate history, government, speech writing, and more for an educational project that will engage future voters in the electoral process. Our goal is to make the election informative, fun, and as close to the actual voting experience as possible.

If you do not have student elections to decide, we can put together a ballot of local, state and federal candidates who are running for office.

The Office of the City Clerk will come to your classroom to discuss the voting process, explain how to cast the ballot, provide election supplies, and a brief Q&A.

The entire process per class takes approximately 45 minutes to one hour.

How Will the Voting Process Work

The Office of the City Clerk will create ballots based upon the list of candidates and questions provided. To simulate a real voting experience, we use ballots and voting equipment used in the City of Long Beach election.

Class rosters can be used as Election Day voter registration rolls or you may create your own voter registration cards. Each student will be given time to sign in at the voter registration tables and pick up their ballots.

Students are designated various roles, including City Clerk and poll workers.

The students will go to the polls, sign the roster, mark and cast their ballot using an actual City of Long Beach voting booth.

City Clerk staff, with assistance from students, will tally and announce the results.

What Day Works?

As soon as possible, determine when the best time is to hold your election.*

Are you filling seats on the Student Council for the current school year, or electing class officers for the next school year?

Will the entire school be voting or just particular classes?

All candidate names, ballot measures/ issues, and class rosters must be provided at least one week prior to the actual election.

* Please note that we can not provide election services 30 days prior or 30 days after an official election in Long Beach.



INVITE US OVER!
Call (562) 570-6101

We'll bring everything you need.

The contact teacher is responsible for coordinating the election with other participating teachers, providing an accurate list of candidates names and/or issues to vote on, and providing the City Clerk staff with a class schedule for classes participating in the program.

