



Pennsylvania  
Department of State

## **Governor's Civic Engagement Award (GCEA)**

The Governor's Civic Engagement Award is presented by the Pennsylvania Departments of State and Education. It celebrates the efforts of Pennsylvania high school students to educate, engage and inform their fellow students about how to get involved in the voting process.

### **Gold Level School Award**

This award is presented to schools that register to vote at least 85% of eligible students.

Student ambassadors and the school receive a plaque and certificates from the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

### **Silver Level School Award**

This award is presented to schools that register at least 65% of eligible students.

Student ambassadors and the school receive a plaque and certificates from the Secretary of Commonwealth.

### **Student Poll Worker Award**

This award is presented to students who participate in a voter registration drive at their school and serve as a poll worker during the November general election.

## **How to Participate – Schools**

1. [Sign up with the Pennsylvania Department of State.](#)
2. Run Your Voter Registration Drive.
3. [Submit your application for the Governor's Civic Engagement Award.](#)

## **How to Participate – Students**

1. Fill out the [Student Poll Worker interest form.](#)
2. [Contact your county election office.](#)
3. Work as a poll worker on Election Day!
4. [Educators and county officials submit nomination forms.](#)

## **Resources**

- Use this [Quick Guide](#) to get started on a voter registration drive.
- Pennsylvania Department of State [pledge cards](#) help track registrations.
- [Request form](#) for Pennsylvania Voter Registration Applications.
- Use the Department of State's [voter registration curriculum](#) to integrate the GCEA into classroom activities and the "[How to Organize Your Student Voter Registration List](#)" to help stay organized.

## **2026 Impact**

Secretary of the Commonwealth Al Schmidt announced that **35 Pennsylvania high schools** won 2025-26 Governor's Civic Engagement Awards for helping approximately 8,000 eligible students to register to vote. In addition, 633 student poll workers were honored for serving at voting locations in their communities during the November 2025 general election.