

To: Montgomery College Colleagues

From: Susan V. Watson, Chief Compliance and Ethics Officer

Date: September 8, 2026

Subject: Election Season Reminder—Guidelines for Political Campaign Activities

Today marks eight weeks before election day, Tuesday, November 3, 2026! Regardless of where you live, all eligible voters in the Montgomery College community are encouraged to register and exercise their right to vote in the upcoming elections.

Each employee and student has a right to expression with regard to candidates and issues. We are fortunate to live in a country where these rights are cherished and protected. However, as a tax-exempt, public institution of higher education, the College itself is prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in any political campaign on behalf of or against any political party or candidate for public office. Therefore, employees and representatives of the College community may not imply that the College supports or opposes any party or candidate.

In addition, College resources—including employee time, computers, printed material, webpages, and rooms, among other resources—cannot be used by an employee to advance a candidate, party, or political issue. In-person and virtual College-sponsored events generally should be structured so that all eligible candidates or representatives on all sides have an opportunity to be heard. Please note that our student organizations are not bound by the same obligations and can organize informational events according to their interests.

Employees are encouraged to review the College's [Political Activity Policy \(31004\)](#). In addition, the American Council on Education published an issue brief in June 2026, "[Voting and College Political Campaign-Related Activities in America's 250th Year](#)," regarding student voting and political activity. The document offers illustrative examples of permissive and prohibited political campaign activities on campus.

Please contact MCVotes@montgomerycollege.edu with questions about voter education and engagement. Questions regarding political campaign activities may be directed to the Office of General Counsel at Emily.Simmons@montgomerycollege.edu or the Office of Government Relations at Susan.Madden@montgomerycollege.edu.

Your attention to these matters is appreciated. Thank you for your civic engagement and your help in maintaining our institutional role as a steward of public resources that provides a fair environment for discussion, discourse, and debate.