

STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



Who Are We?

The Civic Health Alliance is a non-partisan coalition of health and civic leaders allied around a common cause: the advancement of America's health through civic engagement in care settings and communities.

What is Civic Health Alliance (CHA) Student Ambassador Program?

Higher education is a particularly challenging time for learners to participate in activities outside of school settings. The CHA Student Ambassador program represents a nationwide coalition of students that encourage their peers and community members to Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) and remain civically engaged. This program provides an easy way to keep students civically engaged in non-partisan activities and advocate for healthy policies. The program has three (3) levers for engagement that offer opportunities for residents and health systems to advocate for safe and fair elections.

- Individual focus: Remind residents to be civically engaged (e.g., include voter registration information in intern packets; offer lectures connecting civic engagement and advocacy to improved health)
- Institutional focus: Support the health system to do more civic engagement activities (e.g., sign up for the Civic Health Compact)
- Population focus: Create GOTV opportunities where community members engage in clinical settings (e.g., set up voter booths in clinic or community settings).

When activated, these levers may enrich the academic experience of students, reduce feelings of distress, and positively impact patient and community outcomes and engagement.

What is the role of a CHA Student Ambassador?

CHA Student Ambassadors are emerging leaders in the space of civic engagement and health. Because of this, we offer multiple webinars and training sessions throughout the year to teach students how to participate in advocacy. Students are also provided with one-on-one mentorship with CHA team members to help them with their advocacy efforts. As a part of the program, students are asked to develop a project that can increase their civic engagement as medical professionals. Project initiatives include handing out voter information flyers, hosting postcard writing events during elections, creating online campaigns about voting, engaging formerly incarcerated individuals to participate in democracy, writing perspective pieces for academic journals and websites and more. Additionally, students will be asked to get a minimum of 20 people to register to vote or check their voter registration status. Each ambassador is given a RxVote prescription with a unique QR code that pulls up a voter registration form. Students are encouraged to do this work in their community, whether that is in a clinic, online or a combination of both. Because academic commitments is a priority for students, our program allows flexibility to engage in ways that are individually tailored. Requirements include voter registration and attendance of at least 50% of the CHA events.

How Will This Benefit You?

The Civic Health Alliance Student Ambassador program allows students to develop health and civic-engagement projects during their education and explore ways to integrate civic participation into their clinical and academic mindset. In doing so, the program offers four (4) benefits to students:

- Provides opportunities for student-led project(s)
- Appeals to professional graduate school admissions committees (dental, medicine, nursing, pharmacy)
- Engages students, staff, faculty, and patients in GOTV and other civic-engagement efforts
- Sets you apart as a leader committed to changing the healthcare culture around civic engagement

For more information, please contact us at media@civichealthalliance.org. We look forward to working with you!