



Guidelines & Information

October 27, 2026

1. What Is Civics Day NJ About?

In association with National Civics Day it:

- Celebrates civic engagement already happening across New Jersey.
- Expands civic engagement by creating new activities/events.
- Encourages schools, communities, and organizations to view their everyday work through the lens of civic participation.
- Invites participants to create student and youth centered activities that empower them to sustainably shape their communities and strengthen civic life.

2. Who Should Participate?

Civics Day NJ welcomes participation from a wide range of partners, including schools, youth programs, nonprofits, community organizations, faith-based groups, libraries, colleges, universities, local businesses, civic groups, municipal agencies, and community leaders.

3. Why Participate?

- To elevate the civic engagement already taking place in your community or school
- To expand access so that members of your community or school can see themselves reflected in civic life
- To celebrate and coordinate the community's civic work in ways that create long-term impact.



4. How to Participate

Organize and conduct a civic education or engagement activity on October 27, 2026. If you can't do it on October 27th, organize one for the day you can.

- Direct youth involvement in the planning and execution of activities is strongly encouraged. Activities should, whenever possible, be created, led, and facilitated by students or youth participants, with adults serving as supporters rather than drivers.
- If you haven't already, register your activity/event using this form:
👉 [NJ Civics Day Participation Form](https://forms.gle/sqx5ovwzbhph9Ejk6) (forms.gle/sqx5ovwzbhph9Ejk6)

5. Examples of Possible Activities & Events

Activities can be existing activities reframed as Civics Day NJ related, or they can be newly created activities. All activities/events must be non-partisan.

Examples include:

- Student-led service projects (community cleanups, donation drives, peer mentoring)
- Youth-created art or media (murals, advocacy related art, podcasts, student journalism)
- Workshops or teach-ins (media literacy, community storytelling, local history)
- Wellness & community care initiatives (mindfulness sessions, peer support circles)
- Mock policymaking or youth forums (student councils, issue discussions, solution design)
- Nonpartisan voter engagement (voter registration drives, “why voting matters” sessions)
- Civic showcases (student exhibitions, performances, or presentations on community issues)

All activities should aim to:

- Empower young people
- Highlight civic learning and engagement
- Reflect local needs and creativity
- Strengthen community connections

Resources:

There are specific activities and program resources that you encouraged to use that can be found on our [Resources page](https://civicsnj.org/civics-day-nj-resources) (civicsnj.org/civics-day-nj-resources).



6. Civics Day NJ Web Page

Visit [our web page](https://civicsnj.org/civics-day-nj/) for more information (<https://civicsnj.org/civics-day-nj/>)

7. Press & Media

Organizations may share their planned activities with local press to highlight youth leadership and community impact.

When speaking with media, emphasize:

- The nonpartisan, community-centered nature of Civics Day NJ.
- The focus on student and youth voice, civic learning, and community participation.
- That activities are locally designed and reflect the strengths of each community.
- Use the official name “Civics Day NJ” in all press materials.
- CivicsNJ may amplify selected stories through statewide communications.



8. Social Media

Recommended posting themes:

- Spotlight student-led activities
- Share behind-the-scenes planning led by youth
- Highlight community partnerships
- Post photos or short videos of events (with appropriate permissions)
- Encourage others to participate or attend
- Tag CivicsNJ (@civicsnj on Instagram and CivicsNJ on Facebook!)
- Suggested hashtags: #CivicsDayNJ
#CivicsNJ #NationalCivicsDay
#YouthCivicPower



9. Email Address for Questions

If you have questions, please email us at info@civicsnj.org

*****PARTICIPATION in Civics Day NJ is not connected to any grant funding, does not influence eligibility for grants, and does not require any financial commitment. Organizations may participate freely and independently.***



We can't wait to celebrate with you!

CivicsNJ