

Voting Accessibility

ASWWU believes that voting is a right and recognizes that many communities do not have the access they need in order for this to be true. We believe the following recommendations will increase the amount of underrepresented communities and young people participating in elections and local governance.

ASWWU Urges Policymakers to:

- Amend the City Charter to change the qualifications for registering as a voter in municipal elections such that being a citizen of the United States is no longer a requirement to be a vote. Require residency for thirty (30) days is sufficient provided the individual does not claim the right and vote elsewhere in the United States. Further, allow in-person registration in municipal elections on election day.
 - Model Legislation: [City of Hyattsville, MD, Charter Amendment 2016-2](#)
- Pass an ordinance to require property owners and managers in Bellingham provide all new tenants with information about how to register to vote at the time they move in.
 - Model Program: [City of Minneapolis, MN, Tenant Notification of Voter Registration](#)
- Explore innovative public financing of elections to democratize campaign finance and reduce oligarchic control of democracy.
 - Model Program: [City of Seattle, WA, Democracy Voucher Program](#)