

THE
E Q U A L
DEMOCRACY
P R O J E C T
at HLS

A Civic Engagement Agenda

The Equal Democracy Project believes that democracy is strengthened when everyone participates. Equal Democracy has identified a range of actions to increase voter turnout in the 2020 election and beyond. These actions were identified with an eye towards improving voting access for the college and graduate student population, although many of these actions would benefit the eligible voting population at large.

We have organized these actions in descending order of institutional scale—from state legislative action (focusing on Massachusetts) to higher education action (focusing on Harvard University), to grassroots action (focusing on the Equal Democracy Project’s own initiatives on campus). Importantly, these actions are not mutually exclusive; on the contrary, meaningfully addressing the issue of low voter engagement among the student population requires bold action from all stakeholders.

The Equal Democracy Project aspires to drive democracy-oriented initiatives at law schools across the country. Accordingly, this report will provide a framework for democracy advocates across other law schools, given that they will be operating under differing state election law regimes and higher education policies. To that end, this agenda is intended to provide a plan of action detailing best practices to inform Equal Democracy’s current and future advocacy efforts.

Policy Advocacy

There are two main fields in which the Equal Democracy Project will engage in policy advocacy: the federal level and state level. Because of the special role that state governments play in shaping election policy, this report will largely center on state policies. Notwithstanding that focus, Equal Democracy implores our federal legislators to make our democracy more accessible and inclusive for all.

Before delving into the state-level policy reforms Equal Democracy will advocate for, some discussion of the federal context is warranted. Equal Democracy strongly supports H.R. 1—also known as “The For The People Act”—which has passed in the House of Representatives in March 2019 but has not been voted upon in the Senate.¹ This comprehensive reform package has the potential to fundamentally revitalize American democracy, focusing on three main areas: (1) protecting and expanding voting rights and election security, (2) reducing the influence of money in politics; (3) and ensuring an ethical government that is accountable to the people.²

Some of the key provisions of H.R. 1 include nationwide implementation of automatic voter registration, online voter registration, and same-day voter registration; making election day a federal holiday; fighting to end partisan gerrymandering by establishing independent redistricting commissions; and restoring voting rights to people with prior felony convictions.³ To be sure, passing a comprehensive nation-wide democracy reform package like H.R. 1 at the federal level is the gold standard and is a long-term goal. However, as state policy is often what impacts voting rights and election administration most acutely, Equal Democracy is equally invested in fighting for democracy reform in all states.

In Spring 2020, the Equal Democracy Project began its state-level advocacy operations. We are currently organizing public advocacy in partnership with undergraduate students at Harvard College for such state-level reforms, mainly through op-eds and letters to the editor in local outlets. In the following months, Equal Democracy will establish a more formal coalition encompassing students from Harvard College, various Harvard University graduate schools, and potentially other higher education institutions. This coalition will submit letters to the Massachusetts legislature urging the Commonwealth to adopt various reforms to help enfranchise the student population, since election laws impact students similarly across undergraduate and graduate schools.⁴ By coordinating with a broader array of

students, rather than working as a group of Harvard Law Students alone, our advocacy will carry greater weight.

As we begin to establish our university-wide coalition, the Equal Democracy Project will also continue to cultivate relationships with the broader Massachusetts voting rights community. For example, in Spring 2020, we connected with Common Cause Massachusetts, and alongside them and other partners, we have signed onto a coalition letter urging the Massachusetts legislature to adopt legislation in response to the election-related challenges posed by COVID-19.⁵ We look forward to signing onto similar letters in the future, organizing phone banks to raise awareness of pending legislation, elevating advocacy through our social media channels, and contributing to on-the-ground organizing efforts.

Please see below for a table of state-level policy reforms Equal Democracy plans to advocate for, including a snapshot of current Massachusetts election law and the corresponding “best practice.” The table is sorted, roughly, in descending order of general importance and impact.

Election Law	Current MA State Law	Equal Democracy’s Position on Best Practice
Voter Registration Deadlines	To vote in a future election you must register: 20 days before all primaries and elections; and/or 10 days before a special town meeting.	No deadline; adopt same-day voter registration (also known as Election Day Registration, or EDR) which allows eligible voters to register at the ballot box. Currently, 21 other states utilize this system. ⁶
Automatic Voter Registration (AVR)	Since January 1, 2020, the MA Registry of Motor Vehicles provides basic information from all license/ID transactions to the Secretary of State’s office for voter registration purposes. ⁷	No change as this is the best practice. Massachusetts’ AVR is inclusive of both RMV and social service agencies. ⁸
Voter ID	Registered Massachusetts voters do not need to show identification at the polls to vote, except for some first-time voters. ⁹	No change. Documentation requirements tend to disenfranchise scores of eligible voters, often under the guise of election integrity. ¹⁰ Sixteen states do not require documentation to vote, instead utilizing other means to verify a voter’s identity. ¹¹
Election Day State Holiday	Massachusetts has not designated Election Day a state holiday. ¹²	Election Day should be a federal holiday. Until and unless that is the case, Massachusetts should designate it as a state holiday.

Absentee Voting	MA is one of 16 states nationwide that requires citizens to provide a “valid excuse” to vote absentee. ¹³	No-excuse absentee voting for all voters. While this policy is especially useful in times of crisis and emergencies, e.g., the COVID-19 pandemic, our advocacy will underscore that no-excuse absentee voting should be available always.
Absentee Ballots	Massachusetts requires absentee ballot applications to be submitted by mail, email, fax, or in-person. ¹⁴	At minimum, there should be a simple online form to request an absentee ballot. Ideally, all eligible voters should be automatically mailed an absentee ballot in advance of election day, or at least be provided the option to opt into automatically receiving absentee ballots.
Polling Locations¹⁵	Harvard University appears to have relatively close polling locations. ¹⁶ However, many other universities in Massachusetts lack convenient access to polling locations.	Higher education institutions with a critical mass of enrollment (e.g., 5,000 students) should have dedicated on-campus polling sites.
Election Day Work Leave	In Massachusetts, workers are only excused to vote during the first two hours that polls are open, and they are not paid during that time. ¹⁷ Further, workers must apply for a leave of absence from their employers. ¹⁸	Election Day should be a holiday, but short of that, workers should be given paid leave to exercise their right to vote. One should not have to choose between exercising their right to vote and maintaining job stability, and a voter’s ability to exercise that right should not be dependent on a supervisor’s whim.
Online Voter Registration	Massachusetts requires a Massachusetts-issued driver’s license or ID to register online. ¹⁹	Massachusetts meets the standard practice of requiring a state-issued driver’s license or ID card to register online. ²⁰ Equal Democracy supports the ability to register to vote online with the last four digits of one’s social security number, rather than solely with a state-issued ID.
Pre-Registration	Massachusetts is one of 14 states (plus DC) that offers pre-registration at 16 years old. Other states have later ages. ²¹	All states should adopt pre-registration at 16 years of age, and they should be <i>automatically</i> pre-registered to vote.
Absentee Ballot Processing	Election clerks in Massachusetts only have authority to count absentee ballots on Election Day, regardless of when they’re received. This will be untenable given the volume of absentee ballots expected during the 2020 election. ²²	Given the likely influx of absentee ballots due to public health conditions during the 2020 general election, election clerks should have authority to start tabulating absentee ballots as they’re received, starting with the early voting window.

Absentee Ballot Receipt	Massachusetts only counts absentee ballots that are received by Election Day, not those postmarked by and received after Election Day.	Absentee ballots that are postmarked by Election Day, and received within a reasonable timeframe thereafter (e.g. five days), should be counted.
Early Voting Period	In Massachusetts, early voting begins 11 days before Election Day. ²³ Other states have early voting periods as much as 46 days before Election Day. ²⁴	Early voting periods range from four to twenty-seven days; eleven days is relatively short, and nineteen is the standard. ²⁵ Massachusetts should expand Early Voting accordingly, especially given social distancing guidelines, in order to reduce congestion at the polls come Election Day.
Gerrymandering	Gerrymandering is the drawing of districts to favor a political party. ²⁶ Campus gerrymandering is the intentional dilution of electoral power of university students by either removing campuses from their municipality's district or splitting campuses into more than one district. ²⁷ The Massachusetts General Court conducts state legislative and congressional redistricting after each decennial census. ²⁸	When new districts are drawn following the 2020 census, no community should be unnecessarily divided or manipulated to further the power of incumbent political interests—including campus communities. Equal Democracy believes that voters should choose their politicians, not the other way around.

Higher Education Institutional Reform

The importance of higher education institutions in facilitating student voter engagement cannot be understated. Northwestern University achieved over 90% voter registration and Stony Brook University achieved an 99.2% voter registration for the 2018 midterms by virtue of their institutional processes.²⁹ What does “institutional reform” look like in practice? A Northwestern administrator described this in detail in a 2019 report published by the National Resource Consortium on Full Student Voter Participation:

“Universities are already set up to manage a wide variety of bureaucratic processes. . . . There is a system to send every student a tuition bill. There is a system to issue every student an ID. A similar system can be used to give every student the opportunity to register to vote. By more fully embracing the requirements of the voter registration provision of the Higher Education Act (1998), and integrating comprehensive opportunities for registration into existing University systems, campuses can meet both the spirit and the letter

of their compliance responsibility, while also fulfilling their civic responsibility to help students learn how to participate in a democracy.”³⁰

Simply put, institutional reforms provide the most effective opportunities to reach and engage every eligible student in the political process. Beyond achieving better results in terms of voter registration and turnout, institutional reforms serve an important symbolic purpose: they flip the narrative on voter engagement from a casual, “volunteer-like” activity (e.g. registering to vote at a tabling event) to an essential component of one’s life (e.g., making a plan to vote through the same mechanisms for selecting courses, paying bills, etc.). As such, it is absolutely essential that Harvard University, Harvard Law School, and other Harvard schools embed voter registration into their systems and processes.

In our first year, the Equal Democracy Project has had the privilege to play a key role advocating for institutional reforms at Harvard Law School (HLS). Most notably, we successfully advocated for the addition of a link to TurboVote—an online platform that helps students register to vote, request a mail-in ballot, and sign up for election reminders³¹—to the homepage of Helios (HLS’s course registration portal).³²

Please see below a table of institutional reforms and actions Equal Democracy recommends Harvard University and Harvard Law School adopt. The table is sorted, roughly, in descending order of importance.

Civic Engagement Reform	Current Harvard Policies	Equal Democracy’s Position on Best Practice
Embed Voter Registration into Admissions, Orientation, and Other School-wide Processes	Harvard College and Harvard Kennedy School have already implemented voter registration as part of each new student’s orientation. Harvard Law School will also be doing so starting Fall 2020. ³³	Equal Democracy will partner with the HLS Dean of Students (DOS) through this process and offer support where it is most helpful. ³⁴ We will coordinate with Orientation Staff to better understand what their anticipated process looks like in practice and help simulate it. ³⁵ Equal Democracy will also work with relevant faculty and student leaders across Harvard University to understand how to better integrate voter registration. ³⁶ Ultimately, we must make use of all available avenues to engage with each class year of law students.

Designation of Election Day as an Academic Holiday	Based on discussions with the HLS administration, the 2020 election cannot be designated as an Academic Holiday because the calendar year for 2020-2021 had already been finalized. However, the HLS administration was receptive to instituting a policy whereby classes would be recorded and students would not be penalized for not attending class on Election Day.	Election Day should be designated as an academic holiday in 2020 and for all subsequent general elections and federal primaries in Massachusetts. Moreover, if Harvard were to designate Election Day a holiday, other institutions across the country would likely follow suit, building momentum to make Election Day a federal holiday. Accommodations should also be made available for students seeking to participate in any other state and local elections.
Dedicated Class Time for Voter Registration	Although it is standard practice for HLS faculty to allot 10-20 minutes of class time for students to complete course evaluations, there is no such culture or expectation around voter registration.	President Lawrence Bacow and/or Dean John Manning should provide discretionary guidance to all faculty suggesting that they offer class time to ask students to check their voter registration and create a voting plan. If the administration fails to provide such guidance, Equal Democracy hopes to facilitate a faculty-led effort to create such a culture at Harvard.
Hire Civic Engagement Staff (e.g., “campus vote coordinator”)	To our knowledge, there is no dedicated staff at HLS whose primary job function is to help further civic engagement and institutionalize such efforts.	All higher education institutions should designate a “campus vote coordinator” that works to institutionalize civic engagement into school processes.
Hire Student “Election Ambassadors”	HLS does not have any paid student “election ambassadors” to help facilitate voter registration efforts, unlike some schools that offer modest stipends of \$1,000. ³⁷	It is a modest investment to pay 2-3 student ambassadors a stipend of \$1,000 each for voter registration efforts. One-on-one support is critical to ensure accuracy in voter registration forms, and promoting on-campus civic engagement.
Pro Bono Credit for Election-related Volunteering	The Office of Pro Bono Clinics (OCP) has expressed an openness to allowing Equal Democracy-sponsored non-partisan election protection efforts to count towards the HLS pro bono requirement.	Equal Democracy intends to formally ask OCP to extend pro bono credit to students who work as poll workers, poll observers, and other election protection roles. Equal Democracy will work with OCP to identify nonpartisan opportunities for students to volunteer in election protection.
HLS “Voting Hub”	There currently is no centralized portal for HLS students to access voter registration resources.	At minimum, DOS should have relevant resources students can pick up (e.g., voter registration forms) at their front desk. Stamps should be made available so that students can easily mail-in voter registration forms and absentee ballots.

Grassroots Advocacy

While the ultimate goal is to implement reforms in our electoral system and higher education institutions, grassroots advocacy will remain an essential component to our civic engagement strategy. At the same time that Equal Democracy will be advocating to lift systemic barriers that inhibit the student population from voting, we will also work to spread energy and enthusiasm around voting. Given the patchwork of requirements each student must jump through in order to vote, Equal Democracy recognizes that it takes a certain dedication and will to vote. It is important that Equal Democracy helps instill enthusiasm among students, so that voting is prioritized as an essential responsibility—at least on par with managing one’s studies.

Given that Harvard Law School will be remote in Fall 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been thinking critically about how best to engage with students around these issues over digital platforms. Cultivating civic engagement is a highly personal activity that usually requires in-person interaction. Especially for the student population, where many register to vote only as the result of tabling and canvassing efforts, Equal Democracy will need to develop creative solutions in light of social distancing guidelines that will continue to be in place due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Equal Democracy has identified a range of in-person and digital actions for its grassroots strategy. The particular mix will adjust according to the public health context. For example, some in-person activities may be able to continue so long as certain safeguards are implemented, while others may not. Because in-person activities are off the table for Fall 2020, however, Equal Democracy is prepared to carry out a robust digital-only strategy.

In-Person Grassroots Actions

Action	Detail
Voter Registration Drives	Equal Democracy must table extensively ahead of the general election on November 3, providing a consistent presence encouraging students to register to vote.
1L Section Representatives Program	Ensure coverage across the 1L class through dedicated section representatives that are each required to engage with every student and provide voter registration resources.
Voting-related Merchandise	Merchandise, such as laptop stickers, pins, and t-shirts, will contribute to a culture of civic engagement.

“Submit your Absentee” Celebration	At an event with music and free food, Equal Democracy volunteers would help students request, print, and submit their absentee ballots. Stamps and envelopes would also be provided.
Publicize Election Protection Volunteer Opportunities	Though there will likely be a significant increase in vote-by-mail in 2020, many voters will continue to vote in-person. There inevitably will be more issues at the polls during this election, in light of the circumstances, necessitating more election protection volunteers. Moreover, as most poll workers are elderly and may not want to risk their health during this election, young people—especially students—are well-positioned to serve in such vital roles.

Digital Grassroots Actions

Action	Detail
Voter Accountability Program	Challenge fellow HLS students to commit to encouraging three individuals—whether close friends or family members—to participate in the election. They will treat this akin to a job responsibility and strongly urge their voting buddies to participate in the election, helping them develop a voting plan.
Social Media Campaigns	While Equal Democracy maintains a strong social media presence during normal circumstances, we will need to ramp up our content and engagement with students through Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook given that classes will be remote.
Email Signature Campaign	<p>Creative email signatures that link to vote.org or other civic resources can serve as a subtle, yet effective, tool for cultivating a culture of civic participation. See below for examples of potential additions to an email signature:</p> <p>—</p> <p>Equal Democracy Member J.D. Candidate 2022 Harvard Law School</p> <p>Register to Vote! Vote.org Register to vote(.org) Stay engaged! Vote! I pledge to cast my TurboVote! Eat. Sleep. TurboVote. Repeat.</p>
“I Vote Because” Video featuring HLS Students, Faculty, and Staff	As part of an extensive digital campaign, a one-minute video featuring HLS students, faculty, and staff briefly responding to the question “Why do you vote?” would be effective. Alternatively, the video could simply ask students to humorously exclaim “Vote!”.

Conclusion

It is the fundamental principle of a democracy that all individuals—regardless of their wealth, education, race, gender, or sexual orientation—can be represented equally by their government. As it exists today, our democracy systematically favors certain interests over others, betraying this fundamental principle. This Civic Engagement Agenda provides a vision for the reforms various actors must pursue in order to bring us closer to realizing a true, *equal* democracy.

The Equal Democracy Project

July 2020

Endnotes

¹ For the People Act of 2019, H.R. 1, 116th Cong. (2019), <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1>.

² *What is the For the People Act – also known as H.R. 1?*, COMMON CAUSE (Jan. 4, 2019), <https://www.commoncause.org/democracy-wire/what-is-the-for-the-people-act-also-known-as-h-r-1/>.

³ For a full section-by-section summary of H.R. 1, see Democracy Reform Task Force, *H.R. 1 The For the People Act*, COMMON CAUSE (Jan. 4, 2019), https://www.commoncause.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/H.R.-1-Section-by-Section_FINAL-002.pdf.

⁴ Although there may be differences in the “relative impact” of a given election law within the coalition (e.g., some schools may have larger out-of-state student populations), all groups within the coalition would at least see some improvement in voter access. As such, from a coalition perspective, there is little risk in widening the net to include a broader array of higher education stakeholders, as the groups’ goals would likely be similarly aligned.

⁵ Please see the addendum for this coalition letter.

⁶ See *Coalition Letter to the Massachusetts General Court*, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MASS. (Apr. 17, 2020), <https://lwvma.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Coalition-Letter-April-17-FINAL.pdf>.

⁷ *Voting Guide – Massachusetts*, CAMPUS VOTE PROJECT (Oct. 2019), <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Massachusetts>.

⁸ Some other states limit AVR to only motor vehicle registration, resulting in fewer registered voters and less up-to-date voter rolls. See *Policy Differences of Automatic Voter Registration*, BRENNAN CTR. FOR JUSTICE, <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/policy-differences-automatic-voter-registration> (last updated Jan. 17, 2020).

⁹ *Massachusetts Voter ID Information*, VOTERIDERS, <https://www.voteriders.org/uFAQs/massachusetts-voter-id-information/> (last visited July 26, 2020). Per federal requirements under the Help American Vote Act, first-time voters who have not voted in a previous federal election or who have never voted in their county of residence in a federal election, and who did not provide either a driver’s license number or the last four digits of their Social Security number at the time of registration, must present documentation proving their identity in order to complete their voter registration.

¹⁰ Thirty-four states require voters to show some form of identification at the polls. For a state-by-state analysis, see *Voter Identification Requirements | Voter ID Laws*, NAT’L CONF. OF STATE LEGISLATURES, Feb. 24, 2020, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id.aspx>.

¹¹ See *Voter Verification Without ID Documents*, NAT’L CONF. OF STATE LEGISLATURES,, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/voter-verification-without-id-documents.aspx>.

¹² Currently, Delaware, Hawaii, Kentucky, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Virginia, West Virginia, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and the territory of Puerto Rico have declared Election Day a civic holiday. See *Election Day in United States of America 2020*, WHENHOLIDAY, <https://www.whenholiday.com/en-us/election-day/> (last visited July 26, 2020); Chris Cillizza, *Why isn’t Election Day a national holiday yet?*, CNN (Apr. 13, 2020), <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/13/politics/ralph-northam-election-day/index.html>; *State Holidays*, OFFICIAL SITE OF THE STATE OF N.J., <https://www.state.nj.us/nj/about/facts/holidays/> (last visited July 26, 2020); Paul LeBlanc, *Virginia governor makes Election Day a holiday and expands early voting*, CNN (Apr. 12, 2020), <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/12/politics/virginia-election-day-holiday-early-voting/index.html>.

¹³ A voter may only vote absentee in Massachusetts only if they will be absent from their town or city on Election Day, have a physical disability that prevents voting at their polling place, cannot vote at the polls because of religious beliefs, are an active member of the military, are the spouse or dependent of a military member, or are a person confined to a correctional or jail for reasons other than a felony conviction. See *Absentee Voting*, SEC’Y OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASS., <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleabsentee/absidx.htm> (last visited July 26, 2020).

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ Polling place access is often an issue in low-income areas and in areas near universities, forcing students (who often do not have cars) to travel long distances and wait in long lines to vote. See *Voter Suppression and College Students*, FINDLAW, <https://www.findlaw.com/voting/how-do-i-protect-my-right-to-vote/-voter-suppression-and-college-students.html> (last updated Mar. 23, 2020).

¹⁶ See *Interactive Polling Place Map*, CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, <https://www.cambridgema.gov/Departments/electioncommission/mapsandpollinglocations/interactivepollingplacemap> (last visited July 26, 2020).

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- ¹⁷ See *State Laws on Voting Rights/Time Off to Vote*, WORKPLACE FAIRNESS, <https://www.workplacefairness.org/voting-rights-time-off-work> (last visited July 26, 2020)
- ¹⁸ Yet another limitation of this is that it applies only to workers in manufacturing, mechanical, or mercantile establishments. In effect, a large swath of the voter eligible population in Massachusetts may have to choose between exercising their right to vote and maintaining job security. See Rachel Gillett & Grace Panetta, *In New York, California, Texas, and 27 other states you can take time off from work to vote*, BUSINESS INSIDER (Nov. 6, 2018), <https://www.businessinsider.com/can-i-leave-work-early-to-vote-2016-11>.
- ¹⁹ CAMPUS VOTE PROJECT, *supra* note 7.
- ²⁰ *Online voter registration*, BALLOTPEdia, https://ballotpedia.org/Online_voter_registration (last updated March 30, 2020).
- ²¹ See *Preregistration for Young Voters*, NAT'L CONF. OF STATE LEGISLATURES, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/preregistration-for-young-voters.aspx/> (last updated Feb. 12, 2020).
- ²² LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MASS., *supra* note 6.
- ²³ See *State Laws Governing Early Voting*, NAT'L CONF. OF STATE LEGISLATURES, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/early-voting-in-state-elections.aspx> (last updated Aug. 2, 2019).
- ²⁴ *Id.*
- ²⁵ *Id.*
- ²⁶ *Gerrymandering and Fair Representation*, BRENNAN CTR. FOR JUSTICE, <https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/gerrymandering-fair-representation> (last visited April 25, 2020).
- ²⁷ See generally Joaquin Gonzalez, *Fighting Back to Protect Student Voting Rights*, 129 YALE L. J. F. 258 (2019).
- ²⁸ MASS. CONST. art. XIII.
- ²⁹ See *January - June 2019*, NAT'L RESOURCE CONSORTIUM ON FULL STUDENT VOTER PARTICIPATION, https://peshkin.mech.northwestern.edu/publications/2019_SLSV-CLDE.pdf.
- ³⁰ *Id.*
- ³¹ See *Tools for Voters*, DEMOCRACY WORKS, <https://www.democracy.works/tools-for-voters> (last visited July 26, 2020)
- ³² Please see below for the text indicated on the [Helios](#) homepage.
“Register to vote with TurboVote: <https://iop.turbovote.org/?r=vote> Civic participation is central to Harvard’s mission of developing citizen leaders. Please take a few moments to register to vote and/or request absentee ballots through TurboVote, which is an online interface that allows eligible citizens to register in any state, obtain absentee forms, and receive digital reminders for upcoming elections.”
- ³³ NAT'L RESOURCE CONSORTIUM ON FULL STUDENT VOTER PARTICIPATION, *supra* note 29.
- ³⁴ Equal Democracy will refer to the interview guide provided in the National Resource Consortium on Full Participation (NRCFSP) report to better understand HLS’s voter registration programming. NATIONAL RESOURCE CONSORTIUM ON FULL STUDENT VOTER PARTICIPATION, *supra* note 10, at 37.
- ³⁵ The NRCFSP report also provides a helpful self-assessment guide for higher educational institutions to begin to implement civic engagement into their processes. NAT'L RESOURCE CONSORTIUM ON FULL STUDENT VOTER PARTICIPATION, *supra* note 10, at 31.
- ³⁶ At orientation—which 1L, transfer, and LLM students are required to attend—students are provided a packet of papers with essential information. Among these include information to vote absentee, update one’s voter registration to Massachusetts, how to list your address if you’re living on-campus, etc. Students may also have an option to opt for a “voter buddy” who will follow up with one-on-one help.
- ³⁷ NAT'L RESOURCE CONSORTIUM ON FULL STUDENT VOTER PARTICIPATION, *supra* note 10.