

# Preparing Social Work Students for Practice: Sample Political and Voter Activities for Educational Contracts

## The Nine CSWE Competencies:

- C1: Demonstrate Ethical & Professional Behavior  
 C2: Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial Economic & Environmental Justice  
 C3: Engage in Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (A DEI) in Practice  
 C4: Engage in Practice-Informed Research & Research-Informed Practice  
 C5: Engage in Policy Practice  
 C6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities  
 C7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities  
 C8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, & Communities  
 C9: Evaluate practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, & Communities

Example Practice Activity	Alignment with Core Competencies								
	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9
Help clients and/or staff look up who represents them at the local, state and federal level and how to contact them.	✓	✓	✓		✓				
Use supervision to identify policies that negatively impact their clients and/or communities and which branch of government has the power to change them.	✓	✓			✓				
Look up voting rules and deadlines in your state, including when general, special and primary elections take place, rules for voting with a felony conviction, and how other special populations can register and vote.	✓	✓	✓						
Using resources on VotingisSocialWork.org, identify ways your agency could add nonpartisan voter engagement activities to services and culture. Discuss in supervision.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Implement one or more voter engagement activities at your agency (e.g., add questions to intake form)	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	

Discuss ethical implications of not supporting the political power and voice of clients and communities through voting and civic participation.	✓	✓	✓						
Research allowable nonpartisan voter activities and/or lobby rules for 501(c)(3) organizations and/or requirements for nonprofits in the 1993 National Voter Registration Act.	✓	✓			✓				
Share information on voting and elections with clients, staff and/or communities.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Run voter registration drive at agency or event		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
Educate and support people with a prior felony conviction to register and vote (if eligible in your state) through public awareness and individual outreach in service delivery.		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Invite elected officials to agency for meetings or forum focused on advancing human rights issues faced by your clients		✓			✓				
Assist client or staff member to contact elected official about a specific case or issue faced by client (s)		✓	✓		✓			✓	
Assess the differential impact of voting policies on diverse populations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Assess political power in your city or community by comparing voter turnout by district in local elections				✓		✓	✓		✓
Train clients/staff on advocacy, government systems, and the importance of voting		✓			✓	✓		✓	
Measure and discuss effectiveness of agency voter registration drives		✓	✓		✓				✓
Discuss ways to measure impact of voter engagement activities with clients					✓				✓