

Local Politics Bootcamp

Local Politics Bootcamp:

Learn how your city works, build campus & community, and start making an impact! Earn points as you go.

Record your points [here](#)

Learn

5 pts — Sign up for your Neighborhood Council's newsletter (find yours at empowerla.org)

5 pts — Sign up for your City Council member's newsletter (find yours at neighborhoodinfo.lacity.org)

5 pts — Follow both your City Council member and State Assemblymember on social media

5 pts — Find the bills your City Council member is sponsoring (use LA City Clerk's Council File Management System)

5 pts — Subscribe to one local news outlet (LAist, LA Times, Knock LA, Crosstown LA)

5 pts — Look up your LA County Supervisor (each represents ~2 million residents)

10 pts — Explore the LA City Controller's Open Data Portal

10 pts — Form an opinion on a local office that's not mayor (e.g. County Supervisor, City Attorney, Sheriff, School Board)

10 pts — Attend a Neighborhood Council or City Council meeting in LA or another city (online or offline)

10 pts — Attend a meeting of a local civic group (and ask one question or make one comment)

10 pts — Meet a local representative or civic organization

10 pts — Recruit a friend/classmate to do this bootcamp with you

10 pts — Attend a lecture on local government

Build Community

10 pts — Create a GroupMe/WhatsApp/Discord with 5+ classmates or neighbors on a local issue

10 pts – Take 5 friends to an event related to local government or government issues relevant to the state or local level.

20 pts — Organize a small campus event on civic issues (film screening, dorm discussion)

20 pts — Plan a volunteer day (LA River/beach cleanup, park beautification)

30 pts — Start a newsletter, flyer, or Substack for your dorm, building, or student org about local politics

20 pts – Join a student group related to any civic or social issue

20 pts — Attend a Neighborhood Council outreach event (park cleanup, food drive, safety meeting)

20 pts — Go on an “urban walk” or tour focused on LA politics/history (Boyle Heights activism, Watts Rebellion sites, or City Hall)

30 pts — Partner with a student org to co-host a forum on LA issues (housing, homelessness, climate resilience)

40 pts – Run for a leadership position in any organization (or already serve in that position)

Teach

10 pts – Have a discussion about local politics with a family member

20 pts – Teach your friends or others about local government (everyone gets 20 pts for the assignment).

20 pts — Host a dorm or club teach-in on California ballot initiatives (state or local propositions)

20 pts — Lead a discussion comparing LA’s “strong mayor” system with nearby city manager systems (e.g., Pasadena, Santa Monica)

20 pts – Host a debate about a local issue

20 pts – Teach your friends or family about tenant rights in California/LA.

Influence Politics

10 pts — Register to vote in LA (or update your registration)

10 pts — Sign a petition about something you care about (housing, transit, climate, etc.)

10 pts — Volunteer for a local cause (food bank, housing advocacy, environmental group)

20 pts — Convince 5+ classmates to register to vote before the deadline

10 pts — Join a civic group or student org with a local politics focus (BruinsVote, TrojansVote, etc.)

20 pts — Attend a civic group event (workshop, rally, teach-in)

30 pts — Volunteer on a local campaign (City Council, Assembly, School Board)

20 pts — Give a 5-minute dorm/class talk on why local politics matters

10 pts — Share a post/article about LA local government on Instagram, TikTok, or Twitter and tag your councilmember.

30 pts – create an online video about local politics and share it on social media.

***Acknowledgment: Original idea came from [Sachi Takahashi-Rial](#) during the NYC primary