

Kids Voting Arizona



Clean Elections Supplement (Grades 6-8)

Concept: I Study the Candidates & Issues

Activity

Who Is Running Under Arizona's Clean Election Law?

(Students will gather information over a period of several days.)

Objective

Students will determine which candidates are participating in the Clean Elections process.

Students will compare/contrast the reasons candidates give for participating or not participating in the Clean Elections process.

Get Ready

- ✓ Get a list of races eligible for the Clean Elections process for the current election.
- ✓ Make one copy of the "Who Is Running under Arizona's Clean Election Law?" handout for each student.
- ✓ Provide a bulletin board with a graphic organizer for students to list reasons given by candidates for participating/not participating in the Clean Elections process.

Gather Information

- ✓ Provide students with the list of eligible races for the Clean Election process.

Have each student select a race with at least 3 candidates running for office.

- ✓ Students use the handout to gather information about each candidate. Students can use the candidate's website, the Citizens Clean Election Commission website or materials, or information from a phone call to the candidate's headquarters to gather the information.
- ✓ As students gather information, they can add to the class graphic organizer about reasons to participate or not participate in the Clean Elections process.

Questions

- ★ What percentage of candidates for each race is participating in the Clean Elections process? Based on the information the class has gathered, are candidates in one type of race (ex. legislature, governor) more likely to participate than in other races?
- ★ What are the reasons candidates give most for participating in the Clean Elections process? What are the reasons given for not participating in the Clean Elections process?
- ★ Based on the information the class has gathered, what are the patterns or trends across the different races?
- ★ In which process does the average citizen seem to have more political power? Why?

Who is Running Under Arizona's Clean Election Law?

Select one statewide or legislative office with at least 3 candidates running for election. Contact the campaign office and/or website for each candidate to completely fill out the chart.

Statewide or Legislative Office: _____

Candidate's Name	Party Affiliation	Participating in Clean Election Funding (Yes or No)	Reason(s)

Bonus Question (if you get to talk to a candidate): Do you (the candidate) think the average citizen can participate more in a campaign with clean election funding or with traditional election funding? Why?