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Red Ribbon Certified Schools Application Process

Presented By:



Program Partners





Program Purpose

- ❑ Created to recognize schools for successes in:
 - Keeping kids safe, healthy and drug free
 - Improving academic performance
 - Engaging parents and the community
 - Improving awareness and social norms around drugs and alcohol use

- ❑ The program highlights prevention and parents:
 - As leading factors in preventing underage drinking and drug abuse



Program Objectives

Improve graduation rates by reducing the following:

1. **30 day use rate** of alcohol among middle and high school age youth
2. **Binge drinking rate** of middle and high-school age youth
3. **Youth initiating alcohol** use before age 14



The Benefits of Certification

1. Better academic performance for your kids
2. Increase positive outcomes for your kids
3. Elevate your school above others
4. Get more parents involved in their child's education
5. Local and state recognition for your prevention efforts



What Makes RRCS Different?

- ❑ A recent 2-year study by the Center for Prevention Research at FSU shows that RRCS schools are better schools:
 - Better academic performance
 - Less drug use
 - Better school environment
 - Kids and parents have less favorable attitudes toward underage drug and alcohol use

Certification Evaluation Process



- ❑ Schools are evaluated for certification in the following four areas:
 - School Environment - Section I
 - Use of Evidence Based Programs - Section II
 - Parent Involvement - Section III
 - Red Ribbon Commitment - Section IV



The RRCS Application Process

1. Complete and Submit the Online Application

- Attend Introduction Webinar
- Request a login ID and pay application fee (schools outside FL)
- Assemble an application team
- Submit Application by April 15, 2014
 - ✓ Reviewed for certification by a team of experts in education and prevention at the Center for Prevention Research at Florida State University

2. Assemble an Application Team

- Principal - Teacher - Parent
- Student - Liaison

3. Get Certified and Recognized

- Recognition at state and local level:
 - ✓ Receive RRCS flag/banner for school display
 - ✓ Receive sample press release for local publications
 - ✓ Get listed in national press release about newly certified schools
 - ✓ Receive RRCS logo file for use on school letterhead



The Application Review Process

1. **Submitting:** Completed applications are submitted online and sent to the Center for Prevention Research (CPR) at Florida State University.
2. **Reviewing:** Applications are reviewed by a panel of experts in prevention, education and research.
3. **Scoring:** Maximum application score is 100 points
 - o There are four sections:
 - ✓ Section I, II and IV are worth 20 points per section towards certification. Section III is worth 30 points.
 - ✓ 10 points awarded for the completeness of application package
 - o 80 points are needed to become certified





Top 5 Tips on Getting Certified

- ❑ Work as a team and meet regularly- (Principal, Teacher, Parent, Student, Prevention Coordinator)

- ❑ Organize yourself - Create a folder to store information on prevention related activities

- ❑ Elaborate and provide examples.

- ❑ Start the application early. Complete a section every 2 months.

- ❑ Ask us for help. Contact the certification team via email with any questions



Application Timeline

- ❑ Work as a team
 - Complete the application in sections with your assigned team member
- ❑ Work in sections
 - Complete a new section every two months
- ❑ Use a timeline to complete your application by April, 30th

Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Complete Section 1							
		Complete Section 2					
				Complete Section 3			
						Complete Section 4	

Application Process Support



- ❑ Monthly webinars on completing the application sections:
 - October - Section 1
 - December - Section 2
 - February - Section 3
 - March - Section 4

- ❑ Reach the RRCS certification team from our website or via email at Info@RedRibbonSchools.org



Being a Team Leader

- ❑ Represent your school and your community
- ❑ Get your school certified
- ❑ Complete application sections as assigned:
 - Collect information
 - Give input to represent your school's programs
 - Provide ideas on improving the school's programs



Keeping the Momentum

- ❑ Follow up with Your Application Team
 - Regular meetings scheduled bi-weekly or monthly
 - Assign questions to be completed between meetings

- ❑ Contact Information
 - Create a contact form to reach other members

- ❑ Keep your Principal updated and engaged on your progress or concerns



The Recertification Process

- ❑ Recertification occurs every three years

- ❑ Goals are submitted annually for each of the four sections of the certification application
 - Performance to goals are tracked annually

- ❑ Site visit or remote audit is conducted to check programs and performance



RRCS Process Summary

❑ **Program Benefits:**

1. **Increase positive outcomes for your community's kids**

- ✓ Get more parents involved in their child's education
- ✓ Reduce negative behaviors and prevent substance abuse
- ✓ Improve academic performance for your kids

2. **Elevate your school above others**


- ✓ Local and state recognition by community leaders and educators for your success


❑ **Completing the Application:**

1. Get your login ID and pay application fee (schools outside FL)
2. Select an Application Team
3. Assign application sections/questions
4. Follow up with team members using recurring meetings
5. Submit final application online



Resources & Tools

- ❑ Red Ribbon Certified Schools website 
 - www.RedRibbonSchools.org
 - Helpful how-to videos about getting certified
 - Prevention resources for schools, parents and kids
 - Post Red Ribbon events at your school
 - Schools highlighted for great events to engage parents, kids and the community in prevention

- ❑ Informed Families website: 
 - www.InformedFamilies.org
 - View prevention information and community events
 - Find tips and training opportunities for parenting and prevention