



STUDENTS WITH A GOAL



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for applying to the Students with a Goal (SWAG) Conference. Students and mentors (i.e. teacher, sponsor, advisor) who have participated in tobacco use prevention programs throughout the state are invited to participate in the 2-day SWAG Conference. SWAG will empower youth across the State of Missouri in tobacco control and help make Missouri tobacco free. On day one of the conference, students will attend interactive sessions led by youth that will focus on: learning about legislative issues, how to use social media, how to create a Public Service Announcement and more. There is no fee to register or attend, and overnight accommodations will be provided. Funding for this program is provided by The University of Missouri and the Missouri Foundation for Health.

Each student must complete and return the attached application by April 25th, 2011. To qualify, students must be freshman, sophomore or junior high school students as of the 2011 fall school year. Two hundred students will be selected along with their mentors to attend the event. Students from the same school are encouraged to form groups of two or more to attend and must have a mentor that agrees to work with them in the months after the conference to implement an action plan. Mentors and adult chaperones are highly encouraged to attend, but if a parent chooses to give permission, a student can come on their own. Students selected to attend the conference will be notified by May 6th and will be sent a packet of forms to be filled out (i.e., health consent, code of conduct, agenda and directions to the conference). Conference expenses will be paid by the Missouri Foundation for Health, in coordination with the Campus and Community Alliance for Smoke-free Environments grant project at the University of Missouri and will include lunch and dinner on Tuesday, June 7th as well as breakfast and lunch on Wednesday, June 8th. Dorm rooms will be provided to attendees free of charge, but students must bring bedding, towels and toiletries for the night. Travel expenses to and from the conference will not be paid or reimbursed. Transportation to and from the conference is not covered and participants will be expected to assume these costs. Plenty of free parking will be available for all vehicles during the event.

Travel options include:

- Parental guardian drives student to and from the conference
- If parents and mentors agree, mentors can transport the student to and from the conference
- If parents and mentors give permission, students can drive themselves if they are of age

Thank you for your application to attend the 2011 Students with a Goal (SWAG) Conference! We look forward to reading your materials and meeting you in the future.

Sincerely,

*Traci Kennedy, Joyce Lara, Kirsten Weaver + Show-Me PALS Commissioners
2011 Planning Committee*



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Students With A Goal - SWAG Youth Conference 2011

Presented by the SHOW-ME P.A.L.S.

June 7-8th, 2011

Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. Registration Wednesday, 3:00 p.m. Checkout

Location: Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri

Mission: The mission of the Show-Me PALS is to promote healthy lifestyles by advocating for a tobacco free Missouri, educating youth about the risks of tobacco use, and empowering future generations to be tobacco-free

Vision: To inspire a tobacco-free generation

Participation: This is your opportunity to make a huge impact on creating clean indoor air in the state of Missouri. The SWAG Conference is created by students for students and will gather tobacco experts just like you from around the state to come together for two full days of leadership, learning and FUN! We invite you to be a part of the youth movement to make our great state SMOKE-FREE. We are looking for 200 high school freshman, sophomore, and junior standing students along with a mentor to attend this exciting new conference.

Application: Missouri freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who are interested in becoming a part of the tobacco free generation should fill out the application below and return it no later than Monday, April 25th. If you are one of the 200 students selected to attend, we will notify you by e-mail no later than Friday, May 6th. If you are selected to attend the conference, be sure to check your mail for an information packet with all the details of the conference. The packet will include health and consent forms, permission slips, an agenda for the day, a list of what to bring, and directions to the conference.

Your SWAG application may be submitted by:

Mail: Traci Kennedy
Wellness Resource Center
G202 MU Student Center
Columbia, MO 65211

Fax: 573-882-1751 Attn: Traci Kennedy

E-Mail: HarrT@missouri.edu

Online: <http://casemo.org/ShowMe-PALS>

For additional questions contact:

Traci Kennedy
Phone: 573-882-4634
E-Mail: HarrT@missouri.edu

Kirsten Weaver
E-Mail: WeaverKi@health.missouri.edu



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Section 1: The Basics

Name: _____

Address: _____

Street Address

City

State

Zip

High School: _____

Grade: _____ Age: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Parents' Name(s): _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

How did you hear about the conference? _____

Section 2: Please type in a brief answer to the following questions.

Please type a brief answer to the following questions.

You are limited to two pages of text. Only typed responses will be reviewed.

1. Why are you applying to attend the 2011 SWAG Conference?
2. What experience do you have working on tobacco issues?
3. What other leadership activities are you involved with?
4. What is your experience with public speaking?
5. How would you describe the best way to build a team?
6. Briefly describe an activity that you think is the best way to educate your peers about tobacco use or the benefits of a smoke-free community.



STUDENTS WITH A GOAL



Section 3: Recommendation

Recommendation can be provided by any non-relative that is a teacher, mentor, counselor, advisor or other individual that can speak to the knowledge and skills of the applicant.

The above applicant is of high moral character and demonstrates qualities of honesty and integrity in leadership. I recommend that this applicant be considered for attendance at the 2011 SWAG Youth Conference.

Applicant Name: _____

Printed Name of Recommending Agent: _____

Signature of Recommending Agent: _____

Address: _____

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Please initial by the following statements that you feel are representative of the applicant:

_____ This student has held leadership positions with the school/organization

_____ This student has shown exceptional leadership skills within the school/organization

_____ This student has represented their school/organization at various functions demonstrating maturity

_____ This student possesses the qualities necessary to conduct activities with their School/organization following attendance at the conference

Please tell us of a time that you remember when this student demonstrated the above statements:



STUDENTS WITH A GOAL



Section 4: Mentor Form

Each team must have a mentor/sponsor who can assist them in their action plan once they leave the conference. Mentors are highly encouraged to attend the conference and come to all mentors sessions but if permission is granted and release forms are signed the student may come by themselves.

Your Mentor/Sponsors Contact information:

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Address: _____

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Office Phone: _____ Cell or home phone: _____

Email address: _____ T-shirt size: _____

As an adult sponsor, you will be asked to fulfill the following roles:

- If needed, and parents agree, transport students to and from the conference
- Serve as a mentor to your team
- Assist in your team's action plan activities
- Assist in completing action plan and report forms when needed
- Serve as a chaperone for students during the conference

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Address: _____

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Office Phone: _____ Cell or home phone: _____

Email address: _____ T-shirt size: _____

I _____ (adult sponsor) have read the information and understand my role as an adult mentor/sponsor. I agree to support the SWAG Conference goals and the applicant mentioned above.

_____ (mentor signature) _____ (date)

Please list the different areas that you have experience working with teens:

Did any of these areas require you to get a background check? ___ Yes ___ No

Questions?

Contact: Traci Kennedy / Phone: 573-882-4634 / E-Mail: HarrT@missouri.edu



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Section 5: Application Checklist

- Freshman, sophomore or junior year of high school for fall 2011
- Complete the recommendation section
- Mentors form completed
- Fill out all answers completely and return by April 25th, 2011

Expectations:

1. Attend the entire conference, June 7th-8th
2. Conduct activities in your home town after leaving the conference.
 - a. Submit evaluation forms to Traci Kennedy on activities conducted
 - b. For examples of activities please see the list below.
3. To be considered for awards for outstanding teams and students.

Action Plan Requirements:

Your attendance at the SWAG conference requires that you take your knowledge back to your home town and plan events to lead your school and community toward becoming tobacco free! Following attendance of the SWAG conference, send information and pictures on the tobacco free events you've attended and held, to Traci Kennedy and Kirsten Weaver. See below for examples of activities to hold in your school or community. Events must be completed by November 2011 to be considered for awards for outstanding teams and students.

Activities include:

- Writing letters to the editor
- Making a PSA and airing it on your local radio station
- Presenting to the school board or city council
- Meeting with your State Senator/State Representative

For additional questions contact:

Traci Kennedy
Phone: 573-882-4634
E-Mail: HarrT@missouri.edu

Kirsten Weaver
E-Mail: WeaverKi@health.missouri.edu



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Section 6: Youth Applicant: Please read and sign!

I certify that the information and responses given here are true and complete. By signing this statement I'm agreeing to volunteer my time to attend the SWAG conference and further abide by all the rules and regulations of the program including responding to survey, evaluation and monitoring materials.

Applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian

I understand the purpose of attending the Students With a Goal (SWAG) conference and the commitment that it requires, and I hereby give permission for my child to participate.

I agree that my child: (circle one)

May ride with mentor OR Drive themselves if mentor is not able

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____



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Section 7: Questions and Answers:

Is this just for students representing schools or can you apply as a part of another organization?

Students can apply to attend SWAG as representatives of their school or other organization as long as you have some basic background of tobacco issues, have a mentor/adult sponsor, are dedicated to improving the quality of health for Missourians and are freshmen, sophomores, or juniors in high school.

How many students can apply from each organization?

There is no limit to how many students can apply, but only the top candidates will be chosen to attend the conference in June.

What grades can attend?

Starting in the fall school year of 2011, applicants must be freshmen, sophomores, or juniors.

How can I apply?

Mail: Traci Kennedy
Wellness Resource Center
G202 MU Student Center
Columbia, MO 65211

Fax: 573-882-1751 Attn: Traci Kennedy

E-Mail: HarrT@missouri.edu

Online: <http://casemo.org/ShowMe-PALS>

Does the conference cost anything?

The only cost you have is the transportation to and from the conference. Once at the conference all meals and a room will be paid for.

Who is helping to sponsor the conference?

Department of Health and Senior Services, Tobacco Free Missouri, American Cancer Society, Smokebusters, Westminster College

What happens after the application is received?

All applications will be reviewed and applicants will be notified in the first part of May on the status of their selection.

Who can I contact if I have any questions?

Traci Kennedy
Phone: 573-882-4634
E-Mail: HarrT@missouri.edu

Kirsten Weaver
E-Mail: WeaverKi@health.missouri.edu