

Texas Youth Tobacco Awareness Program

Texas Department of State Health Services

Division for Regulatory Services

Offender Education Programs

PO Box 149347, MC 1982

Austin, TX 78714-9347

512-458-7111 x2642 or 1-800-832-9623

www.worthit.org

The Texas Youth Tobacco Awareness Program (TYTAP) is responsible for ensuring that Texas youth are able to complete a tobacco awareness course as mandated by the 75th Texas Legislature through the Texas Health & Safety Code, Sec.161.253. TYTAP uses the Texas Adolescent Tobacco Use and Cessation curriculum. The ongoing growth of this program and long-term evaluation is the result of collaboration between the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Texas A&M School of Rural Public Health and the University of Houston.

The TYTAP instructor training is offered regularly for those wanting to become certified to offer the Texas Youth Tobacco Awareness course. An application form is attached as well as a description of the requirements for becoming a TYTAP instructor. All initial applicants will be required to submit a Texas Department of Public Safety criminal background check, which is at the applicant's expense and must be obtained by the applicant. Payment for initial instructor training is made *after* being accepted into a training class. Payment for in-services should be submitted *with* the application.

Training selection criteria:

- Non-tobacco user or tobacco free for a minimum of two years prior to application,
- Professional experience and training in the fields of education, counseling, health education, psychology, social work, criminal or juvenile justice,
- Training and experience in adolescent education or counseling,
- Demonstrated verbal communication skills by having done group presentations, lectures, etc.,
- Identified geographical need for instructors in a particular area.
- If credentials, such as LSW or LCDC, are part of the applicant's resume, proof of current licensure is required to obtain and maintain certification

Those meeting the criteria above are encouraged to submit an application packet.

For **INITIAL CERTIFICATION**, applicants' packets must include:

- Signed application form
- Current resume
- Signed affidavit of non-tobacco use
- Copies of certificates, licenses, college transcripts or other items listed on the application for verification purposes
- ORIGINAL documents confirming Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) background check obtained by the applicant at his/her expense.

Applicants for the **IN-SERVICE TRAINING** need only complete the application form contained in this document. Additional documentation required for initial certification is not required, unless specifically requested. Payment for the in-service workshop should be enclosed with the application form.

Incomplete application packets will not be considered.

You will be notified whether or not you are accepted into the initial instructor training workshop. If selected for the initial instructor training workshop, you will be notified of the exact time and location of training and how to submit the registration fee. Payment for the in-service should be enclosed with the application form. No payments will be accepted at the training sites. All payments must be submitted at least five (5) days prior to the beginning of the workshop or in-service. If payments are not received at least five (5) days prior, the participant will forfeit his/her place in the workshop or in-service. Participants or their sponsoring agencies are responsible for fees, travel costs, meals and other expenses. Those who successfully complete the new instructor training and are approved by DSHS will receive a certificate to present to local judges to demonstrate certification to conduct TYTAP courses and will have their contact information listed on the *Worth It?* website. DSHS reserves the right not to certify anyone it determines does not meet the standards for TYTAP instructors.

After you receive your initial certification, you will be REQUIRED to attend a one-day in-service (conducted by DSHS, University of Houston, and Texas A&M School of Rural Public Health) within your 2-year certification period. This in-service will be at an additional cost to the participant. Failure to attend an in-service within your 2-year certification period may result in failure to renew your certification.

After certification, questions regarding your certification should be directed to Department of State Health Services.

Prior certification as an instructor for another DSHS Offender Education program does not guarantee acceptance into this certification program.

For other questions, please contact:

Texas Youth Tobacco Awareness Program Coordinator

Offender Education

Division for Regulatory Services

Texas Department of State Health Services

Phone: 512-458-7111 x2642 or 1-800-832-9623

Email: aj.mitchell@dshs.state.tx.us or celeste.lunceford@dshs.state.tx.us

DO NOT send applications to Department of State Health Services, as they will not be considered for training. Please send all applications to the address at the bottom of the application form.

Texas Youth Tobacco Awareness Program

Application for Instructor Training and In-services

Initial certification training – 3 days (\$225):

- Austin ~~————— July 23-25, 2008~~
- San Antonio ~~————— October 29-31, 2008~~
- Austin February 4-6, 2009
- Fort Worth May 27-29, 2009
- Austin July 29-31, 2009

All trainings will begin at 9 a.m. on the first day and end by 4 p.m. on the last day.
Applicants must be on time and attend all sessions. Failure to do so will result in the denial of certification.

OR

In-service training – 1 day (\$100): *(for currently certified instructors only)*

- DFW Area February 20, 2009
- Corpus Christi March 5, 2009
- Tyler June 18, 2009
- Austin August 27, 2009

All in services will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. Attendees must be on time and attend all sessions.
Failure to do so will result in the denial of certification.

AFFIDAVIT

You must sign this affidavit, have it notarized and enclose it with your application packet.

I acknowledge the following:

- I do not use tobacco, and have not used tobacco for, at minimum, the past two years.
- I am willing to participate in drug screening if requested.
- I am willing to participate in the program evaluation sampling process and return student workbooks and other course materials if requested.
- I agree to abide by protocols as outlined by the Texas Department of State Health Services.
- I understand that violation of Texas Youth Tobacco Awareness Program protocols can result in the suspension or revocation of my certification to teach courses.
- I understand that certification as a TYTAP instructor entails a DPS Criminal Background Check, and I am willing to provide the results with my instructor course application. The background check can be obtained by going to the following link: https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/dps_web/Portal/index.aspx
- I have read and agree to the conditions listed on the instructor application should I be accepted.

Name: _____
Please print

Signature _____

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me, this _____ day of _____, 20____

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas.

My commission expires: _____

TO KNOWINGLY MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT WILL RESULT IN THE DENIAL OR REVOCATION OF YOUR CERTIFICATE.

Application Checklist

The application packet must include:

- _____ Signed application form
- _____ Current resume
- _____ Signed affidavit of non-tobacco use
- _____ Copies of certificates, licenses, college transcripts or other items listed on the application for verification purposes
- _____ ORIGINAL documents confirming Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) background check. DSHS may periodically ask you for a new background check while you are certified.

Payment of fees:

Fee of \$225 for the new instructor training workshop must be submitted *after* you are notified of acceptance into the workshop. Details will be sent to you once your application packet is approved.

Fee of \$100 for the in-services should be enclosed with the application packet.

Failure to submit payment at least five (5) days prior to the beginning of the workshop or inservice will result in forfeiture of your place in the training.