

Wisconsin Active Together Application

About the initiative

Wisconsin Active Together recognizes and supports community groups and partnerships for their commitment to building active, vibrant communities. This initiative helps communities build on what they are already doing to grow and promote their local places to walk, bike and be active, by offering achievable strategies to help move efforts towards policy and systems gains.

Why participate?

- Community groups can gain recognition for their commitment and progress in creating a local culture where more people can easily and safely walk, bike and be active.
- Mobilize community members in working towards greater local policy and systems change.
- Be part of building a statewide movement in support of active, equitable and economically thriving communities across the state.
- Get connected to resources, training, peer communities, and other experts working on similar issues in Wisconsin.

Who is eligible? Any self-defined, local, place-based community entity. The entity, group or coalition must work with other partners in the community (rather than in isolation) to accomplish shared goals, is interested in making their community a more active place, and is willing and able to meet the application criteria.

Examples of participant entities could include but are not limited to: Local Public Health Coalitions, Local walk/bike advocacy groups, Municipal/Town/County Boards (e.g., official Bike Ped Committee), Neighborhood Associations, Chambers of Commerce, Parent-Teacher Organizations, etc.

What kinds of people / roles might complete this application? Examples might include but are not limited to: coalition coordinators or volunteers, people who coordinate or volunteer with interest or advocacy groups (e.g., walking, biking, trails, parks groups), municipal or county staff who work with communities or community groups, neighborhood association leadership or members, local business leaders or chamber of commerce staff, PTO members, etc.

Who developed this initiative? Members of the healthTIDE Active Communities Team, a diverse and multidisciplinary group of state-level and community-based partners from across Wisconsin, collectively identified the need to support more local-level action on strategies that make it easy, safe and inviting for people to walk, ride a bike and be active in their communities. The team developed this campaign together and works to coordinate supports to include assistance to applicants, peer networking, and connections to technical assistance, among other resources.

What are key strategies? The "Community Assessment Strategies" that appear in the assessment checklist include strategies that Wisconsin communities and coalitions have said are effective in their communities, and are supported by evidence from research and/or use in other states' campaigns.

The overall framework is informed by evidence that suggests that policy, systems and environmental change are key drivers in creating place-based access to physical activity in communities. For more information and resources about each of the strategies, please visit www.WIActiveTogether.org/resources

Apply to participate and receive recognition!

To apply for recognition, you need to complete the 3-step online application (see overview, below). You must apply online. Paper or emailed submissions will not be accepted. Applications do not need to be completed all at one time. When you finish each page and select "next/save", your work is automatically saved to that point so you can return later (from the same computer) to complete the application and submit it. Applications will be reviewed when all materials are received.

STEP 1 – ABOUT THE APPLICANT

Provide general information and contact information

STEP 2 – CURRENT ACTIVITIES ASSESSMENT

Provide information about the group's current and upcoming actions making it easier to walk, bike and/or be active in the community, including:

- Brief open-ended descriptions of your activities, needs and approach towards equity
- Checklists of active transportation strategies in three categories

STEP 3 – MAKE IT OFFICIAL – SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

Attach two pieces of documentation, take the pledge and submit your application

- Attach 1) a letter of support from your local community, and 2) a photo that captures your group's efforts to create ways to walk, bike and be active.
Please note: Applicants may attach documents directly within the online application, OR may email documents to info@WIActiveTogether.org. Required emailed attachments must be received for the application to be considered complete, and the email must reference the community name.
- Check four boxes showing your commitment to creating active communities.
- Push the submit button.

Please contact info@WIActiveTogether.org with questions or to receive support with the application.

Step 1: About the Applicant

What is the name of the community in which you focus your efforts?

How do you define the geographic scope of this community?

- Neighborhood(s)
- Municipality
- County
- Regional
- Self-Identified Community
- Other: _____

Name of the applicant entity (the local coalition, group or partnering organization):

Contact person. Please list a contact person who is willing to respond to emails from staff and provide an annual update on your group's checkboxes.

- Name: _____
- Organization (if applicable): _____
- Mailing address: _____
- City: _____
- Zip code: _____
- Phone number: _____
- Email address: _____

Step 2: Current Activities Assessment

Overview of current work. Please provide a brief description of your entity's involvement in making it easier, safer or more inviting for people to walk and bike. Describe how this fits into the wider community context.

Resources needed. Tell us about the information or resources that would be helpful to you and your local partners in advancing your efforts to make it easier for people to walk and bike.

Upcoming plans. Please provide a brief description of your likely plans to provide for a more active community in the upcoming year.

Equity needs. For the community in which you focus your efforts, please provide a brief summary of the main gaps in access between those who have the most and least access to places to walk, bike and be active.

Equity plans. For the community in which you focus your efforts, please describe the approach and action steps that your entity is taking to close the gaps in access between those who have the most and least access to places to walk, bike and be active.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE STRATEGY CHECKLIST:

On the next three pages, you will see separate lists of active community strategies grouped in three categories:

- Local Action Strategies (Blue),
- Community Engagement Strategies (Yellow), and
- Outcome Goals (Green).

To be listed as a recognized community, you will need to have:

- at least one Blue strategy in place, plus
- at least one Yellow strategy in place, plus
- at least one Green strategy adopted and being implanted OR a commitment to work towards a Green strategy in 2018

Communities with greater experience in working on active transportation initiatives are encouraged to consider adding one or more additional strategies in the Yellow or Blue categories that they think might integrate well with their existing efforts. **While additional strategies are not required to receive recognition**, evidence shows that integration of multi-level strategies supports forward progress in working towards successful policy and systems outcomes.

Blue Checklist: Local Action Strategies

In the first column, please check all of the strategies that the applicant (with collaborative partners) currently has in place.

In the second column (Focus for Upcoming Year), list all the existing strategies that you will continue to implement in the current year AND any new strategies you plan to add in upcoming.

What can we count? You may check the boxes for any strategy that is a focus area in your entity's work. It is acceptable to check a strategy if you are A) the lead coordinating entity, or B) if you are an engaged partner that spends time or resources working on the strategy. If you are doing an innovative strategy not on the list, write it in the "other" box at the bottom of the category in which it best fits. It will then be reviewed to determine if it can count towards meeting that category's criteria.

Local Action Strategies	Currently In Place	Focus for Upcoming Year
Events		
One-time Community building walks or rides (e.g., Slow Roll, Bike Rendezvous, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walk to School day/week (October)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bike week (June 3 - 10)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bike to Work Day (May 19) or AHA's National Walking Day (April 5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open Streets event(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Share and Be Aware classes and rides	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bike donation or bike swap event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participation in the National Bike Challenge or the APHA Billion Steps campaign. Encourage individuals, teams, schools and/or worksites to sign up.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conduct a community walk audit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety education campaigns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs		
Regular weekly or monthly community building rides or walks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycle benefits program with local retailers (e.g., bike bingo)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cycle Without Age programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
"Stop for your Neighbor" walking education campaigns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weekly/Monthly travel training or transit club events (trips to farmer's market using alternative transportation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Changes		
Create simple community walking loops / trails with signage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Installing bike racks and/or fix-it stations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
"Walk Your City" signage or paint on sidewalks for routes that connects people to destinations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Place physical walking/biking route maps in the community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Bike Share	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Build a better bus stop (bus stop design contests)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Yellow Checklist: Community Engagement Strategies

In the first column, please check all of the strategies that the applicant (with collaborative partners) currently has in place.

In the second column (Focus for Upcoming Year), list all the existing strategies that you will continue to implement in the current year AND any new strategies you plan to add in upcoming.

What can we count? You may check the boxes for any strategy that is a focus area in your entity's work. It is acceptable to check a strategy if you are A) the lead coordinating entity, or B) if you are an engaged partner that spends time or resources working on the strategy. If you are doing an innovative strategy not on the list, write it in the "other" box at the bottom of the category in which it best fits. It will then be reviewed to determine if it can count towards meeting that category's criteria.

Community Engagement Strategies (minimum of 1)	Currently in Place	Focus for Upcoming Year
Demonstration Projects		
Pop-up sidewalk, protected bike lane or bike boulevard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pop-up visible crosswalks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pop-up traffic calming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pop-up directional signage or maps network. Include transit stops in network	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pop up art at local 'activity hubs' like main streets, schools, bus stops, senior centers, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
First mile/last mile connections demos to show safe walking connections to transit stops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Outreach Strategies		
Create supporter email lists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grassroots education (potential topics: economic benefits, trips under 2 miles, Stop for your Neighbor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local official education (e.g., meetings, 1-pagers, walk/bike/ride transit with your mayor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Bike Walk Civics Course	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collect walk/bike transit/transportation rider's stories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking meetings with municipal leaders/legislators or office hours on the bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participatory public art	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participatory photo mapping/photovoice. (recommendation: focus on project areas most impacted by lack of access to active transportation)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community walk audit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Green Checklist: Outcome Goals

In the first column, please check all of the strategies that the applicant (with collaborative partners) currently has in place.

In the second column (Focus for Upcoming Year), list all the existing strategies that you will continue to implement in the current year AND any new strategies you plan to add in upcoming.

What can we count? You may check the boxes for any strategy that is a focus area in your entity's work. It is acceptable to check a strategy if you are A) the lead coordinating entity, or B) if you are an engaged partner that spends time or resources working on the strategy. If you are doing an innovative strategy not on the list, write it in the "other" box at the bottom of the category in which it best fits. It will then be reviewed to determine if it can count towards meeting that category's criteria.

Outcome Goals (minimum of 1 or upcoming year commitment to implement 1)	Currently in Place	Focus for Upcoming Year
System Change Milestones		
Apply for walk / bike friendly designation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish a Bike/Ped Committee or Safe Routes to School Task Force	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopt a Bike/Ped Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create a Safe Routes to School Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serve as a mentor to other communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attend a statewide conference /summit on active transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish consistent Wayfinding Signage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish model workplace policies with large local employers (e.g., local government, private businesses) (ex.: bike racks, showers, incentives for walking or biking to work)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connect trails across city or county lines in bicycle and pedestrian plans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support leadership development opportunities / leadership roles with individuals in underrepresented communities / those that lack access to active transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopt a health equity resolution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Priority Policy Goals		
Local Complete Streets policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Safe Routes to School policy / funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Step 3: Make it Official – Submit Your Application

Ready to apply? Attach the two required documents listed below, take the pledge and then hit the “Submit” button.

If you don’t have the two required documents, go ahead, take the pledge now, and submit your application. You can follow-up with the two attachments later by returning to your application and attaching them or by sending them via email to info@WIActiveTogether.org.

- 1. Letter of Support.** Applicants must submit a letter of support from the decision making body that would be responsible for approving or making the policy change that the applicant has committed to work towards (in other words, the strategy that was selected from the Green Columns). A letter of support does not require that the body has adopted or approved the policy right now. Instead, it means that the decision making body is aware of the group or coalition’s efforts and supports their process of working to make the community an easier and safer place to walk, bike and be active. [Sample letter of support](#).

***What kinds of decision-making bodies might be able to provide a letter of support?** Some examples might include but are not limited to: town or municipal boards, neighborhood associations, chambers of commerce, boards of health, school boards, etc. In each case, it will depend upon the policy / systems change strategy that the applicant has committed to work towards in the coming year. If you have a question about the entity that should provide a letter of support, please contact info@WIActiveTogether.org.*

- 2. Community Photo.** Please include a photo image that captures the efforts that your group is working on to create ways to walk, bike and be active.

By submitting this application, we pledge to:

By submitting this application, we pledge to (must check all boxes for application to be complete):

- Grow and sustain a visible local culture of walking and biking;
- Make our efforts part of a statewide network working to improve the policies, systems and environments that enable people to walk and bike safely throughout communities;
- Center equity in our work by partnering with communities and/or populations who face the greatest barriers to accessing transportation choices, and by using an equity checklist in our future work. Equity checklist samples: [Toolkit](#), [Comprehensive Checklist](#), [Fast Checklist](#),
- Be willing to share our progress with WI Active Together in 1 year.

SUBMIT

W I S C O N S I N
**ACTIVE
TOGETHER**

TAKE THE PLEDGE



ABOUT

Wisconsin Active Together

Be recognized for your community's commitment and progress in advancing active strategies while working towards greater policy change.



PLEDGE



Apply today! Get recognized for your community's progress and commitment to making it easier to walk, bike and be active. Get connected to resources, training, peer communities, and other experts working in the state. By advancing strategies for ready to get started, take a look at the existing things you are already doing in your community and decide what's next to advance from change, you'll help foster health and a thriving community.

Join in to work locally while being part of something larger. Applications are due February 1, 2018 and must be submitted on-line. happening across Wisconsin.

Application

Application Support and Resources

Preview the application

If you prefer to take a look at the full application before you dive in on-line, you can download it here.

Preview

See the strategy guide

Find definitions, more information and details on each of the WI Active Together strategies in the Community Strategy and Resource Guide.

Guide

Contact Us

Not sure what's next for your community to be Active Together? Need support on your application? Get in touch!

Contact





Supporters of Wisconsin Active Together

We are a group of diverse partners working to promote healthy, thriving communities where people can easily and safely walk, ride a bike and be physically active.

We want to recognize and support communities for their commitment to health through growing and promoting their places to walk, bike and be active.

As sponsors of the campaign, we aim to foster local-level implementation and promote a framework moving communities from program to policy change. Along the way, we will coordinate support to include: coaching, peer networking, and in person and virtual trainings, among other resources.



Many partners are supporting Wisconsin Active Together, please send your logo so we can proudly display it here.