

# **Host Site Training: Materials and Sample Agenda**

**Materials**  
ACAC has compiled some of the most effective materials on our website under the Resources page (<https://equityinlearning.act.org/acac/resources>). Please review the State and Site Coordinator materials and download the materials that would be beneficial to your state’s program, ensuring they are customized as necessary to reflect your state’s implementation.

Customizable ACAC materials in the *Site Coordinator Toolkit* sectioninclude:

* Pre-Event Planning
  + Site Coordinator Checklist and Timeline
  + Planning Committee Agenda
  + Student, Family and Community Information Letters
  + Volunteer Task Assignments
  + College Application Worksheet for Students
  + “Ask Me About It” posters
  + Sample Press Release & Media Advisories
* Day of Event
  + “Ask Me!” buttons and stickers
  + I Applied! Stickers and pennants
  + Accepted pennants
  + Student Instructions for College Application Event
  + Student Next Steps After Applying handout
  + College Application Event Sign-Out Sheet
* Post-Event
  + Volunteer Thank You Letters
  + Understanding Financial Aid Award Letters handout
  + Reminders for FAFSA events
  + College Signing Day FAQ

**Training Agenda Template**  
It is highly recommended state coordinators provide a training for all host sites, even those returning to host an event again. It is up to each state, based on the number of host sites and geography of the state, to determine how this training is provided. Some states provide in-person training while others offer a series of webinars, and some states utilize both approaches. A recommended training strategy is to engage returning sites by asking them to share best practices and examples of how they utilized the tools available.

A training PowerPoint template is also available on the ACAC website for states to customize for their program. Please contact ACAC for assistance.

1. Welcome and Thank You!

* Have all host sites briefly introduce themselves. This helps the group identify neighboring schools/districts and organizations that may be able to coordinate efforts.

1. Purpose of American College Application Campaign and [INSERT STATE CAMPAIGN]

* To encourage and assist all students to apply to college, especially those who will be the first in their family to go to college or students from low-income families, because applying to college will increase their options as they decide what to do after high school.
* To provide dedicated time to support all students in determining viable postsecondary pathways for life after high school.
* To provide additional information to all students about the college-going process.
* To reinforce a college-going culture in the school and community.
* This is not a recruitment activity for a specific college or university, though it is recommended that all students apply to at least one local institution, as research suggests that students applying after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic are best served by having a nearby option.
* This strategy/event is intended to enhance, not replace the work school counselors are already doing to support students through the college-going process. It may be helpful to have a conversation regarding what schools are already doing to support students and how they think this could enhance their work.
* [INSERT ADDITIONAL STATE GOALS]

1. Host Site Coordinator Requirements

* Host sites must identify a site coordinator who will be responsible for implementing the program at their school or organization. This can be a high school counselor, a college advisor, assistant principal, or a teacher who works in the building on a regular basis and is known by the students and staff.

1. Preparing for and Implementing a College Application event
   * College Application Campaign events will be held at the school during normal school hours or at an organization during normal operating hours; schools or organizations may offer additional online options for students who need them
   * Expectations before, during, and after event
   * Data collection process – what data are required, how to collect, and how and when to submit to the state coordinator
   * Volunteer support
2. Review Site Coordinator Toolkit and Available Resources
   * Site Coordinator Toolkit
   * Resources
   * Demonstrate how to access and download from either your state campaign website or the ACAC website
3. Questions?
4. Thank you!