

Washington Tracking Network Youth Science Contest

Program and Policy Design Track Guidelines

Program and Policy Design projects may include policy proposals or work with a local organization to create or improve a program, based on WTN data, to address public health issues or disparities.

Program and Policy Design projects must include the following components:

1. Identification of a public health concern through WTN data.
 - a. Other sections of the Department of Health's website contain data, but do not meet this requirement. All WTN data will have <https://doh.wa.gov/data-statistical-reports/washington-tracking-network-wtn/> or <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/wtn/> in the URL.
2. Development of an idea for addressing that concern.
3. Discussion of the impact of your idea if implemented, including data where possible.
4. Presentation of your finding and proposal, including data visualization. The data visualization does not have to be yours; you are welcome to include data visualizations from WTN.
 - You may present and visualize your project in any way you see fits the project. You can create a video, a PowerPoint presentation, a dashboard, a virtual poster, or a proposal paper with graphs, diagrams, or illustrations.
 - When choosing your presentation format, keep in mind that all presentations will be submitted electronically.
 - If you choose to make a video, please refer to the video submission guidelines.
 - If you have other ideas about how to present your findings, please discuss them with WTN staff by emailing DOH.WTN@doh.wa.gov for guidance.
 - Your presentation must include a discussion of the [equity](#) impact of your project, such as how it could be or will be used to rectify a disparity.
 - Your presentation must include a discussion of the health impact and/or social significance of your project. Ideas for finding significance in your work include:
 - A new idea
 - A new approach
 - Broad implications or high impact
 - Innovativeness or creativity
 - Potential to create positive change
5. A reflection on your process, discussing how you chose your topic, what led you to your approach, what challenges you encountered along the way, and what assistance you received (please describe any support you received in the form of ideas, critiques, materials, or equipment, and who provided them).
 - Note: science and social change do not occur in a vacuum. Often it is helpful to run ideas by others to refine them or think of other issues or approaches. This contest does not prohibit receiving assistance from others, but the project and the work behind it must be substantively yours, and you must give credit where due.
 - This may be included in your presentation or submitted as a supplemental document. It does not have to be a large section of your project.

Considerations for all projects:

- All projects must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on April 15.
- Projects that do not include all required components will be disqualified.
- Projects must be submitted in accordance with the submission guidelines.