

AAFP Tar Wars Poster Contest

Criteria and Judging

The poster contest is designed to reaffirm the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Tar Wars message learned during the classroom presentation. Schools are encouraged to organize a poster contest at your school and motivate students to participate in this activity.

Prizes

Winners are selected and announced at the AAFP Tar Wars National Conference in Washington, DC.

The prizes for the top three posters are as follows:

First Place - \$1500

Second Place - \$250

Third Place - \$175

Criteria and Rules

The AAFP Tar Wars national office has set the following criteria and rules for poster submissions. Please be sure to review the criteria and rules with students to ensure compliance and avoid disqualification.

1. Only 4th and 5th grade students who have had the Tar Wars presentation are eligible to submit posters for the contest.
2. Posters must incorporate **original and creative artwork**. Depictions of cartoon, video game, and movie and/or theme characters, television characters, and past poster designs do not constitute creativity and originality.
3. Posters must deliver **a clear and positive message** about being tobacco free. Death themes and art displaying negative health consequences, cigarettes, ashtrays, coffins, people smoking, etc. are not considered positive messages and will not be accepted. A small no smoking symbol is acceptable.
4. Posters must be no larger than standard poster board size (22" x 28") and no smaller than 8.5" x 11".
5. Posters should not be laminated or mounted on mat board. Also, do not staple, glue, or tape entry forms to the backs of posters. You may paper clip entry forms to the poster.

6. Ask students to refrain from writing their name or other identifying information on the front of their poster. Poster contest entry numbers should not be marked on the front of posters either.
7. Students may use a variety of media, such as watercolor, pen and ink, crayon, chalk, markers, etc. Keep in mind that winning posters may be reproduced or reprinted, so clear artwork and easy to read messages are best.
8. Computer clip art, pictures from magazines and other print media, or any other copyrighted brand or product images **will not** be accepted.
9. Students may not work in pairs or groups.
10. Failure to comply with the guidelines could result in a disqualification of the poster.

Judging

Each school should choose its own team of judges. This team may be comprised of art teachers, school nurses, parents, older students, school board officials, local artists, PTA/PTO members, community leaders, or local media personalities.

Posters should be judged on their artistry, creativity, originality, and their ability to communicate a clear and positive message to remain tobacco free.

Submitting Posters for the State Contest

Your school's winning poster(s) should be sent to the state coordinator by the deadline set for your state. Poster contest deadlines vary from state to state, so contact your state coordinator. To locate your state coordinator, go to <http://www.aafp.org/about/initiatives/tar-wars/contact.html> and scroll down the page to "Contact Your Local Coordinator." Click on your state to find information about the state poster contest deadline.

The completed poster contest entry form and authorized release form must accompany the poster submission to the state coordinator. Both forms can be found at <http://www.aafp.org/patient-care/public-health/tobacco-cessation/tar-wars/poster.html> under "Poster Contest Submission Forms."

Please do not send your poster to the AAFP Tar Wars national office.

Winning state posters submitted to the AAFP Tar Wars National Poster Contest become property of the AAFP Tar Wars program and will not be returned. Be sure to make color copies of any poster forwarded to the state-level contest.

If your state does not have a coordinator, please contact the AAFP Tar Wars national office at 800-TAR-WARS (800-827-9277) for instructions on where to send your poster.