

# Promoting Active Communities Award Application

Michigan's Promoting Active Communities (PAC) assessment and award application is available for online completion and submission at [www.mihealthtools.org/communities](http://www.mihealthtools.org/communities). To be considered for the PAC award, the application must be completed and submitted online. However, communities may find this print version of the application useful for previewing the assessment before they register or for collecting data, which can then be transferred to the online application.

This print version includes all the PAC assessment questions and is similar but not identical to the online version. When you complete the questions online, the computer provides assistance. For example, the online assessment displays relevant questions based on your previous answers automatically, performs all calculations for you, checks to make sure all questions are answered, and checks for inconsistent or illogical information. Community population and geographic information is also provided with the online version along with links to numerous online resources to assist your community in completing the assessment and obtaining ideas for ways to make your community more conducive to active living. Additionally, scorecards are provided on the online application; each time you enter data and save, the scorecard is updated.

Please note the following on this print version:

- Instructions for skipping/answering questions and calculation instructions are provided in red. (These functions are performed automatically with the online version.)
- Terms that you can find in the Promoting Active Communities glossary located at the PAC website are in **bold face** in the print version. In the online version, these appear in bold blue letters throughout the application. All you need to do is click on the word and the definition will appear.
- Icons in the print version represent links to the ***Design Guidelines for Active Michigan Communities***  and Promoting Active Communities Resource Guide . In the online version, these links are active. When you click, the link will take you to the Design Guidelines or Resource Guide where you can learn more about the topic referenced in the question, section or subsection.

All Michigan communities are eligible to apply for the Promoting Active Communities award. Communities that achieve an award are recognized at an annual event. Look at the PAC website Frequently Asked Questions for this year's award application deadline ([www.mihealthtools.org/communities/default.asp?tab=faqs](http://www.mihealthtools.org/communities/default.asp?tab=faqs)).

For more information, please visit the Promoting Active Communities website at [www.mihealthtools.org/communities](http://www.mihealthtools.org/communities). Or contact Sarah Panken at [slpanken@michiganfitness.org](mailto:slpanken@michiganfitness.org) or 517-908-3822.

## SECTION 6: POLICIES AND EDUCATION FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

Safety and security are both critical for active living communities. *Safety* means that when people are out being active, they feel confident that they will come to no physical harm, such as from automobile crashes or poorly maintained sidewalks. *Security* means that pedestrians and cyclists can move without fear of crime or some other threat, such as an unleashed dog. Your public works department and local law enforcement agency can assist you in answering questions in Section 6.

*Note: If you have questions about any aspect of the assessment, please contact Sarah Panken (via email at [slpanken@michiganfitness.org](mailto:slpanken@michiganfitness.org) or via phone at 517-908-3822).*

Learn more! Follow the  and  links.

### Education

6.1 Are educational programs offered in the community to encourage bicyclists and/or skaters to follow safe riding practices? These programs are sometimes offered by local biking organizations, law enforcement agencies, safe kids coalitions, safe routes to school coalitions, or during smart commute week.

 

- Yes
- No

6.2 Are educational programs for motorists offered in the community on sharing the road legally and safely with bicyclists? These programs could be offered through media campaigns, local drivers education programs, or bicycling advocacy organizations.

- Yes
- No

### Injury Prevention

6.3 Does your community have a system or procedures in place to evaluate the factors behind pedestrian and bicyclist injuries caused by crashes with motor vehicles, and to recommend needed safety improvements?

For example, one system that works for many communities is to have a **non-motorized transportation advisory committee** or health coalition work with the public health department or hospitals to acquire injury data and determine the locations of pedestrian injuries. Recommendations for safety improvements can then be made to the public works department for high crash injury areas.

- Yes
- No



6.4 Are traffic regulations requiring cars to yield to pedestrians at **crosswalks** enforced?

- Always
- Usually (more than 50% of the time)
- Sometimes (25-50% of the time)
- Rarely (less than 25% of the time)
- Never

## Security from Crime

6.5 Are the following public facilities for physical activity regularly patrolled for security by law enforcement officers or trained volunteers?

a. Parks

- Always
- Usually (more than 50% of the time)
- Sometimes (25-50% of the time)
- Rarely (less than 25% of the time)
- Never 0
- Not applicable; There are no parks in the community

b. **Shared-use paths/Trails**

- Always
- Usually (more than 50% of the time)
- Sometimes (25-50% of the time)
- Rarely (less than 25% of the time)
- Never 0
- Not applicable; There are no shared-use paths/trails in the community

6.6 Does your community's police department have a **community policing program**?

- Yes
- No

6.7 Does your community's police department support **Neighborhood Watch Programs**?

Support could include activities such as providing funding or incentives, assisting with organization development, or providing training programs.

- Yes
- No

6.8 In general, is fear of crime in your community a deterrent to biking or walking?

- Not at all a deterrent
- Only a small deterrent
- Somewhat of a deterrent
- A very significant deterrent