

**Sample Invitation Letter for Potential Host Sites**

*State Coordinators are encouraged to use this letter as a template when recruiting new potential host sites or reaching back to former host sites. The letter can come from state coordinators or other steering committee members. While host sites have traditionally been high schools, some states are seeing success in community-based organizations hosting efforts to reach more students and recent high school graduates who did not enroll in college. In addition to this letter, consider including the ACAC’s Why Join? document and Host Site FAQ document.*

[Insert date and state campaign logo with ACAC logo]

Dear [Superintendent/Principal/School Counselor/Executive Director Name],

As part of a national initiative sponsored by ACT’s Center for Equity in Learning, [state name] has joined the [American College Application Campaign](https://equityinlearning.act.org/acac/) (ACAC) and will host [State’s Campaign name] on [dates]. This will be the [number] year that [state] has hosted a college application event!

The goal of ACAC and [State’s Campaign name] is to increase the number of first-generation college-going students and students from low-income families who pursue a postsecondary education by assisting high school seniors as they navigate the college admissions process, ensuring each participating student submits at least one admissions application. As we know, if [state name] is to develop the educated workforce needed for progressive economic development, we need to significantly increase the number of first-generation college students and students from low-income families pursuing and completing a certificate program, associate degree, or a bachelor’s degree.

We are seeking schools and organizations interested in participating in [State’s Campaign name]. We believe that this initiative will complement the work your community is already doing to increase awareness of college preparedness and the application process. As a result of your participation in this program, we anticipate that your school or organization will experience an increased number of students submitting college applications.

If your school or organization commits to hosting a [State’s Campaign name] event, a site coordinator will need to be identified, typically a school counselor, teacher, or other support person responsible for college and career planning/support. Your coordinator will be asked to plan and implement an event during your regular operating hours on a day or days during [State’s Campaign name] to assist seniors as they complete a college application.

[State’s Campaign name] will provide training to your site coordinator regarding how to implement the program including organizing, planning, using volunteers, encouraging student participation, and securing application fee waivers for students from low-income families. Training will be available [dates] through [in-person, webinar, conference call]. Details regarding training will be sent to registered sites at a later date. In addition, your state coordinator can provide you with direction in identifying volunteers to assist your local initiative.

[State’s Campaign name] is available to provide technical assistance as your site coordinator plans and implements the Campaign locally. And, lastly, a guidebook/toolkit of resources including sample letters, schedules, and checklists will be provided. There is no cost to join the Campaign. We anticipate this event will be held at least one day during [State’s Campaign name]. Other than those commitments, your [State’s Campaign name] activities can be as big or little as you want to make them – although we encourage you to assist students in advance of the program to ensure they are prepared! So, additional time dedicated to the program will vary by school.

Please let us know if you are interested in joining the Campaign no later than [date] by completing the registration form (link or enclosed) [*provide a link or include the form in your invitation*].

To learn more about [State Campaign name], visit our website at [insert web link]. To learn more about the national effort we are part of, the American College Application Campaign, visit <https://equityinlearning.act.org/acac/>.

We hope that you will join this exciting initiative! Should you have any questions about [State’s Campaign name], please do not hesitate to contact [me, State Coordinator’s Name], [State’s Coordinator’s title], at [email address] or by phone at [phone number].

Sincerely,

[insert name]