

Pennsylvania Safe Routes to School Program

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a program that makes walking and biking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.

In Spring 2008, PANA is partnering with PennDOT to launch the <u>Safe Routes to School Academy</u>. The academy will provide actionable strategies and steps for implementing SRTS plans in local schools and communities.



Academy Goals

- Develop partnerships among education, health, local government, and public safety representatives to support and implement SRTS programs
- Implement supervised walk to school programs (Walking School Bus)
- Develop infrastructure plans for safe walking routes
- Collect statewide data on walking to school and SRTS programs

The Academy will feature online training modules that support the development of partnerships and plans incorporating the 5E's of SRTS:

Encouragement, Education, Enforcement, Engineering, Evaluation

PENNDOT Infrastructure Funding

- The first infrastructure cycle is planned to launch during fall 2008.
- The school and municipality apply jointly to combine their expertise:
 - 1. Municipalities are more familiar with federal funding requirements, ordinances/zoning for infrastructure projects, and maintenance
 - 2. Schools know more about student needs, curriculum, and pupil transportation.
- Only infrastructure improvements identified in the school's SRTS Plan will be eligible for funding. (Note: All applications are required to submit a Walk to School Plan as a part of their infrastructure applications.)





For more information on the Pennsylvania SRTS Program contact:

Robyn Ricketts
Active Communities Director
PA Advocates for Nutrition & Activity
rricketts@psu.edu
(717) 531-1440 x.3

Pennsylvania Advocates for Nutrition and Activity (PANA) is a statewide coalition of various public and private partners working to promote healthy eating and active living across the Commonwealth. The organization was established in January 2003 with initial funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. For more information on PANA visit: www.panaonline.org.