

**FCCLA Teen RSA Initiative**

**How to Conduct a Teen Road Safety Assessment (RSA)**

**Step 1: Getting Started**

Review the Teen RSA Assessment Sheet.

**Step 2: Recruit a Team** (Possible team members)

FCCLA adviser and chapter members Law Enforcement

School Administrator (if interested/available) Members of the Community

School Transportation official Parents

**Step 3: Select a Location**

Choose the assessment location (an intersection in front of or near your school.) What are the biggest safety problems near your school? Is there a line of cars dropping off students in the morning? Are there challenging areas where students have to walk or cross or ride their bike to get to school? Keep these three areas in mind:

* School Traffic
* Pedestrian Safety
* “Hot Spots” (bad corners, scene of previous crash, etc.)

**Step 4: Coordination & Research**

Have a meeting with your RSA team(s). Each team will ideally have 4-6 students. If you have multiple teams, you can station each one at a different corner and rotate them during the RSA. Explain the purpose of the RSA, determine what role each person will play during the assessment and explain their duties. Share the FCCLA Teen RSA Assessment sheet you will use. Remind your team that this is a safety assessment, not an evaluation of the design of the road.

Assign someone to research the intersection (any crash data, safety concerns etc.). Use Google to scan the intersection, including cross streets. If you can, use Google Earth to get aerial overviews and “street view” pictures to help you map out your RSA.

You can even ask your police department if you can borrow a speed gun – even better if they will join you to participate in the RSA!

Contact local media, and your school news, to let them know this is happening (FCCLA to provide sample press release).

**Step 5: Conduct the RSA**

Safety First! When you are near traffic, you are only a few feet from danger. Be sure to wear brightly colored safety vests. Also, no open toed shoes, clogs or flip flops. Be sure to stay alert and don’t distract others on your team when near the road.

Perform the assessment. If possible, conduct the RSA at least two times at different times of the day, and/or different weather and traffic conditions. You should bring clipboards, pencils, copies of the Teen RSA Assessment sheet, a camera, safety vests (you may want to ask your school if you can borrow safety patrol gear). Fill out as much of the assessment as possible. FCCLA knows all school intersections are different – but gathering this data is beneficial for you to see the big picture of the safety of the intersections around your school.

**Step 6: Report & Share Your RSA Results: Become a Road Safety Advocate!**

* Talk to your team about what you observed during the RSA. Come up with ideas to include in the assessment report.
* Complete a FACTS program award application online to share details of your RSA project by March.
* The chapter with the most outstanding application will be selected to win the FACTS Roadway Safety Achievement Award and a cash prize of $500.
* Post pictures of what you saw on a bulletin board at your school, highlighting some of the areas of concern and reminding students about areas where they need to exercise caution.
* Get an article in your school newspaper about the project and about how students can get involved.
* Talk to your principal about making a safety video to share with your school.
* Share your report with local school and government officials. Discuss with them what next steps they recommend. Share this information with the community through local newspaper articles, social media, radio PSAs, etc.
* Review the assessment process. How did it go? What would you do differently next time?
* Work with your school to establish annual RSAs. Demonstrate the power of peer to peer safety education. Make your school a leader in road safety for your community!

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact FCCLA at programs@fcclainc.org or call 703-476-4900.