



How does Safe Stars benefit my facility?

A Safe Stars designated facility will receive:

- Access to an electronic Safe Stars logo for parent letters, posters, websites and other marketing
- A certificate of recognition
- Recognition of Safe Stars status on the Tennessee Department of Health's Injury Prevention webpage

Learn more

For application details and to learn more about the Safe Stars initiative, visit our website at www.tn.gov/health/article/the-safe-stars-initiative, email SafeStars.Health@tn.gov, or call 615.741.7353.

The Safe Stars Initiative for Youth Sports Leagues



Vanderbilt Sports Medicine

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER



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What is the Safe Stars initiative?

Safe Stars is a collaboration between the Tennessee Department of Health and The Program for Injury Prevention in Youth Sports at The Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.

The Safe Stars initiative:

- Recognizes youth sports leagues in Tennessee that adhere to high standards of safety
- Helps leagues implement policies on various safety topics, such as concussion education, injury prevention and weather safety
- Provides resources and opportunities for every youth sports league to enhance their safety standards

The criteria for achieving recognition as a Safe Stars league has been developed by a committee of health professionals dedicated to reducing sports-related injuries among youth. Participation in Safe Stars is **VOLUNTARY** and **FREE!**

Safe Stars consists of three levels – Gold Star, Silver Star and Bronze Star. To apply for your league to become a Safe Stars league, review our requirements on the Tennessee Department of Health's website at www.tn.gov/health/article/the-safe-stars-initiative.

When your league can meet Bronze Star, Silver Star or Gold Star standards, submit your application to us online. The application process includes the ability to upload certifications, training programs, presentation slide decks, policy paperwork and other materials to confirm you have met specific safety requirements.

If you don't qualify for Safe Stars recognition, use our online resources to enhance your program and apply at a later date.

Safe Stars standards

To reach the initial level of recognition, the **Bronze Star** standard, a league must meet the following requirements:

- AED on site for all practices and games
- All coaches trained in concussion and sudden cardiac arrest recognition/management
- Anaphylaxis and allergy emergency plan
- Background checks completed on all coaches
- Emergency action plan
- Minimum of two coaches CPR/AED certified
- Severe weather policy

Standards for **Silver Star** (choose 2) and **Gold Star** (choose 4) include:

- All athletic equipment undergoes safety checks
- All coaches complete additional health, safety and injury prevention training
- All coaches CPR/AED certified
- Implement tobacco policy "Young Lungs at Play"
- Medical professional (athletic trainer, first responder, etc.) on site for all games
- Medical professional (athletic trainer, first responder, etc.) on site for all practices
- Pre-participation physical examination required for athletes
- Promote positive culture and standard of expectations concerning behavior
- Provide risk and safety information/policies to parents/guardians