

VBS STANDARD

TO BECOME A STANDARD VBS, SET GOALS TO MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- Fulfill the 16 actions marked by an asterisk (*).
- Complete 8 additional actions, for 24 total actions.
- Report your Standard VBS to your State Convention office.

TO BECOME AN ADVANCED STANDARD VBS, TAKE THESE ACTIONS:

- Meet requirements for a Standard VBS.
- Conduct either (1) a mission VBS, (2) one or more Backyard Kids Clubs, or (3) a VBS Link-up. (VBS Link-up is one church linking with another to provide leaders and materials for that church.) Report on the VBS 2021 Church Report.
- Report your Advanced Standard VBS by sending the report to your State Convention office . A certificate will be sent to your church by your state Sunday School department once a report is made.

I. PURPOSES, OUTREACH, BIBLE TEACHING, AND EVANGELISM

- ___ *1. The pastor, Sunday School director, and VBS director have discussed the purposes in the *Administrative Guide* and have made appropriate plans for achieving them.
- ___ *2. The VBS director and the Sunday School director explained the “Transition From VBS to Sunday School Plan” (page 40 of the *Administrative Guide*) to workers and asked workers to participate in visitation.
- ___ *3. The pastor (or other appointed person) led in planning the evangelistic thrust for the Vacation Bible School and in training VBS workers to recognize and to respond to the evangelistic opportunities.

II. PLANNING

- ___ *1. The VBS director was enlisted and elected by the church to assume responsibilities by January 1.
- ___ 2. The pastor, VBS director, and Sunday School director met to discuss plans for the school, set appropriate goals, and planned ways to reach the goals.
- ___ 3. Dates for the Vacation Bible School were set and placed on the church calendar at least six months before the school.
- ___ 4. When deciding on the schedule, consideration was given to the best times to reach each age group for which the school was planned.

III. ORGANIZATION

- ___ *1. The *VBS 2021 Administrative Guide for Directors* was used as a guide for determining the organization of VBS.
- ___ 2. At least one department was provided for each age group for which the school was planned; multiple departments were provided in age groups as needed to maintain recommended sizes.
- ___ 3. If youth served as apprentices, a separate time was planned for Student VBS.
- ___ 4. Consideration was given to ways to reach persons who are mentally handicapped, hearing impaired, blind or visually handicapped, physically disabled, or exceptionally gifted.
- ___ 5. Plans for reaching cross-cultural groups in the community were discussed and developed, if appropriate.
- ___ 6. At least one department was provided for preschoolers under two years of age whose parents served on the VBS faculty or who attended Adult VBS.
- ___ 7. At least one department was provided for adults in Vacation Bible School. An alternate schedule may be considered for adults.

IV. LEADERSHIP ENLISTMENT/TRAINING

- ___ *1. The VBS director was responsible for enlisting general officers, age-group department directors, and team leaders for special interest teams.
- ___ 2. Teachers and other assistants were enlisted by the appropriate department director or team leader.
- ___ 3. All VBS workers were approved or elected by the church.
- ___ *4. An effort was made to enlist all workers before the associational VBS clinic, and workers were encouraged to attend the clinic.
- ___ 5. At least 90 percent of enlisted workers participated in the recommended faculty training plan.

V. CURRICULUM AND RESOURCES

- ___ *1. LifeWay Christian Resources Vacation Bible School curriculum materials were used.
- ___ 2. Anticipated expenses of the Vacation Bible School were included in the church budget, and VBS teachers complied with church policy in the use of budget allocations.
- ___ 3. The best available space for each team was determined by the VBS director, age-group department directors, and team teachers, and approved by the pastor or appropriate church leaders.
- ___ 4. At the end of the school, all reusable materials were inventoried and stored or given to Sunday School department directors for use in Sunday School.

VI. EVANGELISM

- ___ 1. Workers with preschoolers and younger children were encouraged to witness to parents of the children enrolled whenever appropriate.
- ___ *2. The pastor (or appointed person) led at least one evangelistic service in which the plan of salvation was shared with older children, youth, and adults. Unsaved pupils were given an opportunity to accept Jesus as personal Savior.
- ___ *3. If any decisions for Jesus were made, a personal visit was made to each home to clarify any aspects of the decision with the person and/or parents and to encourage follow-through with baptism and church membership.
- ___ 4. The missions offering taken through the Vacation Bible School was given to support missions through the Cooperative Program or other church-approved causes.

VII. PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

- ___ *1. The VBS director (or a person assigned by the VBS director) developed a comprehensive plan for promoting the school in the community and inside the church. Plans were developed in consultation with the pastor and/or appropriate church publicity committee.
- ___ *2. At least one pre-enrollment activity was conducted to enroll prospects in the community.
- ___ *3. Sunday School members and prospects were invited to pre-enroll in Vacation Bible School.
- ___ 4. The VBS director (or a person assigned by the VBS director) reviewed and utilized available VBS promotion resources, including the resources listed in the VBS Catalog.

VIII. FOLLOW-THROUGH

- ___ *1. Vacation Bible School workers were trained to use the "Transition From VBS to Sunday School Plan" and participated in the church's efforts to transfer or enroll prospects in Sunday School.
- ___ *2. Sunday School prospects discovered in Vacation Bible School but not transferred to or enrolled in Sunday School were added to the appropriate age-group prospect file for follow-up visitation.
- ___ *3. A report of the Vacation Bible School was mailed to LifeWay Christian Resources, the state Sunday School department, and the association within two weeks after the close of the Vacation Bible School. (For Advanced Standard recognition or when some groups meet at a later date, the complete report must be made within two weeks after the last VBS project.)
- ___ 4. A written or verbal evaluation was requested from each Vacation Bible School worker. The VBS director compiled these evaluations and presented them to the pastor for planning next year's school.

Church Name _____

Church Address _____