# THE RIPPLE EFFECT

***Be the Change. Better Decisions. Brighter Futures.***

**Student Entry Application — Saginaw County Youth Substance Prevention Contest**

This project puts young people in charge of the message. Open to students in grades 9–12, and your message should speak directly to that same audience: fellow 9th–12th graders. Use this form to submit your idea for a poem, TikTok video, dramatization, rap, song lyrics, or another creative format that shows how one choice about marijuana, vaping, or alcohol ripples outward — to your health, your family, your friends, and your future. Your final product must be 2 minutes or less. Please print clearly.

## 1. Student Information

| | |
|---|---|
| **Student Name** | |

**Grade Level (check one):**

☐ 9th ☐ 10th ☐ 11th ☐ 12th

| | |
|---|---|
| **School / District** | |
| **Student Email** | |
| **Student Phone** | |
| **Teacher / School Liaison** | |

## 2. Parent / Guardian Information

*Because entrants are minors, a parent or guardian must review this application and provide consent (see Section 6).*

| | |
|---|---|
| **Parent / Guardian Name** | |
| **Parent / Guardian Email** | |
| **Parent / Guardian Phone** | |

## 3. Your Submission

**Time limit: your final product (video, audio, or performance) must be 2 minutes or less.**

**Audience: write and create for your peers, students in grades 9–12**

**Format (check one):**

☐ Poem ☐ TikTok / short video ☐ Dramatization / skit

☐ Rap ☐ Song lyrics ☐ Other: _____

**Guiding question your submission addresses (check one or more):**

☐ The negative impact of ATOD on the body, brain, and future

☐ Unknown facts young people should know

☐ How these drugs affect athletes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Title of Your Submission** | |

**In 2–3 sentences, tell us what your submission is about and why you chose this message:**

| |
|---|
| |

## 4. How This Will Be Judged

Selected submissions are scored by the judging panel on a 1–5 scale, with 5 as the top score, across four criteria. Keep these in mind as you create your final product:

| Criteria | What Judges Are Looking For |
|---|---|
| Creativity | An original, engaging idea and execution. |
| Innovation | A fresh approach or angle that stands out. |
| Staying on theme | Clearly connects to The Ripple Effect and the issue it addresses. |
| Potential impact | How likely the message is to resonate with and influence other students. |

## 5. How You're Submitting

☐ Hand-carried to my school liaison / the Health Department

☐ Electronic file or link: _____

## 6. Release & Consent

By signing below, the student and parent/guardian give the Saginaw County Health Department and Health Advisory Council permission to review this submission, and — if selected as a finalist — to use, reproduce, and share it (with credit to the student) as part of The Ripple Effect campaign across Saginaw County schools and community channels.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Student Signature** | |
| **Date** | |
| **Parent / Guardian Signature** | |
| **Date** | |
| **Teacher / Liaison Signature** | |
| **Date** | |

**Submission deadline: Friday, October 23, 2026. Submit to the Saginaw County Health Department / Health Advisory Council.**