

GREEN BANDANA INITIATIVE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Green Bandana Initiative About?

The West Virginia Green Bandana Initiative (WVGBI) is a mental health campaign aimed at encouraging students at West Virginia's colleges and universities to receive basic mental health training. Students completing Mental Health First Aid, QPR, SafeTALK, or another evidence based mental health training will receive a green bandana to wear or tie to their bookbag to signify to other students that they are open to talking about mental health and willing to help peers connect with resources on campus.

What is the green bandana for?

Lime green is the color of mental health awareness, and green bandanas are used as a signal to others that a person has been trained in mental health awareness. Students who take training will receive a green bandana to signify to others that they are open to talking about mental health. Trainers can request green bandanas [here](#).

I'm a student and want to get trained. What do I need to do?

Check the Green Bandana Initiative "[Mental Health Training Opportunities](#)" listing to see if there is a training scheduled for your campus. If not, check out the virtual training opportunities that are open to any students. Sign up and invite a friend to sign up too!

Do the trainings have to take place February 1-8?

No. February 1-8 is an awareness campaign week during which student leaders will be sharing mental health training opportunities and encouraging their peers to sign up for trainings that are scheduled for dates in March, April, and May.

I'm a trainer and I already have an in-person (or virtual) training scheduled on my campus this semester. How can I be involved?

If your school already has a mental health training planned for this semester and you are still accepting registrations, please email the details to behavioralhealth@wvhepc.edu so we can help promote registration on your campus for your event.

There is not a certified trainer at my school. Can we still participate?

Only a certified trainer can submit training opportunities for promotion as part of the WVGBI campaign. If your school does not have a trainer on staff, see the WVGBI [website](#) for contact information for trainers under the heading, *Don't see anything scheduled for your school?*

My school has a chapter of "The Bandana Project" or is looking into starting one. Is WV Green Bandana Initiative the same thing?

Students at many colleges across the world are using lime green bandanas to signify mental health awareness and support for their peers. WVGBI is a statewide initiative started in WV in 2021 to help increase mental health training for WV students. WVGBI has joined many other mental health organizations and groups in the use of lime green bandanas in support of reducing stigma and raising mental health awareness.

A different initiative, The Bandana Project, was founded in 2016 in Wisconsin and is another option for individual schools that would like to take their mental health awareness and training work to the next level and start chapters on their campuses. More information on The Bandana Project at thebandanaproj.org.