Ready Relay

**What it is** Ready Relay is a fundraising activity where teams of four-to-six participants compete against one another to complete a series of mission-related tasks.

**How it helps** This activity allows you to spread the word about the work of the American Red Cross through engaging and informative activities. In addition, the money that you raise will go towards funding important services, such as providing shelters for victims of disaster and restoring family links internationally.

**Get started** The first step in planning your fundraiser is to get in touch with your local American Red Cross chapter or Service to the Armed Forces station. After securing their help, complete these three steps and you’re on your way to success:

1. **Determine your location and time.** Decide on a public place that has a lot of foot traffic in which to hold your Ready Relay, such as a mall or park. Be sure that you have permission from the appropriate people before moving forward. Since this activity is a fundraiser, you will be charging an entry fee for each team or participant. For example, charge $10 per student or $40 per team.

2. **With your event location secured, plan out the logistics of the event.** Decide on a prize for the winning team, a “home base” location for participants to report back to and how you will distribute tasks. It’s a great idea to use cell phones for communication. For example, all tasks can be sent from a designated phone to the team captains, who in turn send proof that they have completed that task back to you. The proof should come in the form of a picture or video.

3. **Get people to sign up on teams of four-to-six participants.** Now that you have the location and details planned, you can tell everyone about your Ready Relay. Use your club’s social media accounts to get the word out and make posters to put around your school. You can also talk to your principal or administrators about how they can help with publicity.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
An average of more than 9 million people a year receive American Red Cross training in first aid, water safety and other skills that help save lives.
Once you decide all of the logistics and register all the participants, it’s time to put your fundraiser into action. You should have everyone begin from one designated spot, where you will distribute the first task. Once the teams have completed each task and provided you with proof, send them the next task. This process will go on until all of the tasks are completed and a winner is determined. Check out the Ready Relay Task Sheet from the resources for some sample tasks that you can use!

Through interactive and educational activities, participants of this event are helping to spread the work of the Red Cross in your community, while having a great time. With the success of your Ready Relay fundraiser, check out the other available activity guides to help you stay involved with the Red Cross. Hold a Prepare and Share Kit Drive or try something unique with our Disaster Speaks event!

Before beginning, get in touch with your local Red Cross chapter or station for assistance. You can find contact information at redcross.org.

**Shake it up!**

» Give each team its own bucket to collect donations during the activity.

**Show and tell**

» Share pictures and videos of your Ready Relay by sending them to youthinvolvement@redcross.org.

» Do you know about Schooltube? Share a video of your Ready Relay at schooltube.com! Include the name of the activity in the title of your video.

**Resources**

» American Red Cross Emergency Contact Card

» Ready Relay Task Sheet

» Ready Relay Flyer