

FP

First Priority of Tampa Bay

The 8 steps for starting a First Priority
campus group/club



Student-led Christian clubs on
middle and high school campuses
in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, &
Polk Counties



Step 1: Obtain information about First Priority

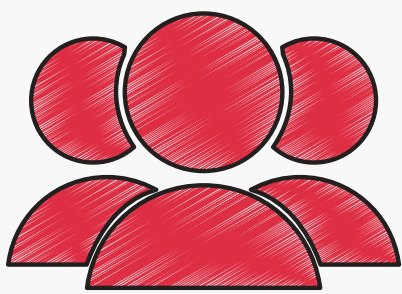


What is First Priority?

- It is a student-led Christian campus club focused on outreach
- It is not a Bible study or discipleship program

What is the purpose First Priority?

For Christian students to share the hope of Christ with students who may not have a personal relationship with Jesus



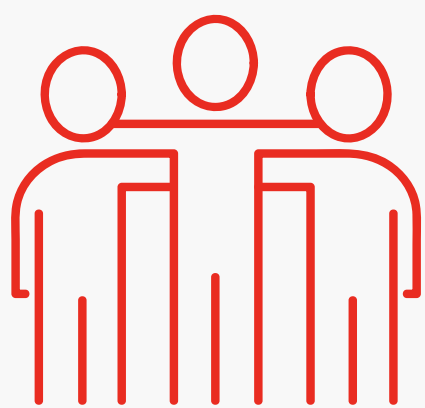
The responsibilities of being a student leader

Student leaders must be willing and able to demonstrate the following skills:

- Follow the First Priority H.O.P.E. model
- Recruit other students
- Communicate with teachers and administrators
- Plan and execute weekly meetings
- Help younger students to become leaders



Step 2: Recruit a team of student leaders



Now that you understand the First Priority mission and the responsibilities of being a student leader, it is time to recruit a team of Christian students. Here are some suggestions to help you:

- Ask your Christian friends to be in leadership
- Speak with your youth pastor about students from church who also attend your school
- Speak with a First Priority staff member to help you identify other Christian students at your school who have the ability to lead

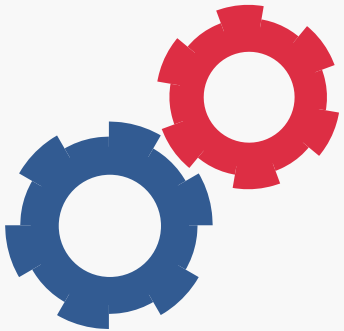


What student leaders need to know:

Once you have at least 2 or 3 students identified as possible leaders, please ask them to download the First Priority phone app or visit the website to become familiar with the First Priority mission and the responsibilities of being a student leader.



Step 3: Find a faculty member to host meetings



Now that you have recruited a team of Christian students, it is time to find a faculty member to host the weekly meetings. Here are some tips:

- Ask the leadership team to speak with teachers
- Speak with the principal about available faculty members
- Speak with a First Priority staff member to help you find a possible faculty member

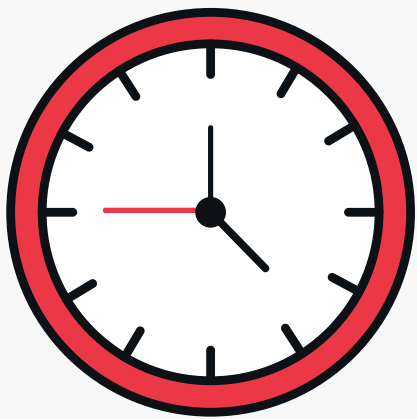


What teacher hosts need to know:

- First Priority clubs are student-led
- First Priority meets weekly during non-academic time [before or after school, during lunches]
- Students have access to resources for the weekly meetings
- The teacher host provides meeting space and oversight of meetings
- A trained first priority staff member may attend periodically to observe meetings



Step 4: Schedule the meeting day and time



Now that you have secured a faculty member to host the meetings, it is time to schedule the day and time of the weekly meetings. Here are some tips:

- Speak with the leadership team and agree on a day and time
- Speak with the teacher host to confirm he/she is available to host on this day and time

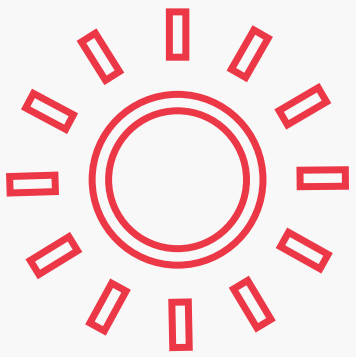


Some things to keep in mind:

- Meetings usually last about 20-30 minutes
- Wednesdays-Fridays are generally the best days
- Before school or during lunches are most effective
- if the club meets during lunches, a leadership team is needed for each lunch; passes may be required to leave the lunchroom



Step 5: Schedule training



Now that you have decided on a meeting time and day, you are ready to schedule training with a First Priority staff member:

- Contact a First Priority staff member by email: fptbclub@gmail.com or by texting a staff member (contact info. is found on the phone app under the Staff Directory icon)
- Ask your teacher sponsor to contact a First Priority staff member for you



Some things to keep in mind:

- The training is designed to help you launch the group, and to know how to find and use our meeting resources
- Training can be provided to your group at the school [during non-academic time] or at a church
- First Priority staff members are approved by the school district to provide you with training



Step 6: Complete the necessary paperwork



Now that you have scheduled the day and time of the weekly meetings, it may be necessary to turn in meeting or club paperwork. Here are some tips:

- Speak with the teacher host or an administrator to confirm if club paperwork is required by the school
- if paperwork is required, find out if the school provides the application or not




If the school does not provide the club application:


If the school requires meeting or club paperwork but does not provide an application, please download the "Intent to Meet" form from the First Priority website [www.firstprioritytampa.org]. The form is located under the "Students" tab of the website.



Step 7: Schedule a launch date for your club



Now that you have completed the necessary paperwork (if required), it is time to schedule your first meeting. Here are some tips:

- Confirm approval from administration
 - Speak with the leadership and agree on a day and time
 - Speak with the teacher host to confirm he/she is available on this day and time
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Some things to keep in mind:

As you schedule the first meeting, please make sure that the start date is NOT:

- On a school holiday
- During testing
- The day after a holiday or big school event



Step 8: Launch the club



Now that you have scheduled your first meeting, here are some tips for successfully running your club:

- All leaders should download the FP phone app
- Promote the meeting
- Ask a First Priority staff member for posters and/or a meeting announcement to share via text or social media
- Assign leadership tasks (see below)



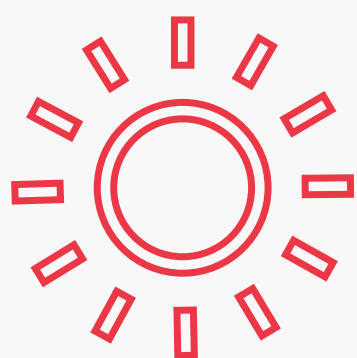
Leadership tasks:

Please assign at least one student to each of these tasks:

- Welcome others at the door
- Open the meeting in prayer [and an icebreaker]
- Explain First Priority [it is a Christian club but you do not have to be a Christian to attend]
- Read the lesson and questions
- Read the weekly challenge to the group
- Report attendance via the app
- Close in prayer



What if you run into issues?



If you run into issues while you are setting up your club, here are some tips:

- Contact a First Priority staff member or email us at fptbclub@gmail.com
- Ask your youth pastor to contact us

If you run into issues after you launch your campus club, here are some tips:

- Consider partnering with another school's
- First Priority club via Zoom (our staff will help you to do this)
- Consider joining the All County Virtual Club on Thursdays at 4pm (our staff will provide you the log in info)
- Contact a First Priority staff member or email us at fptbclub@gmail.com



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Please contact for training



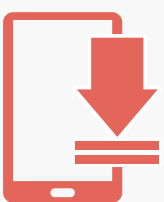
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www.firstprioritytampa.org



First Priority of Tampa Bay phone app