



North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

2019 Green Ribbon Schools Application

Instructions

Thank you for your interest in completing the NC Department of Public Instruction application for nomination to U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS). In order to complete this application, you will need to collect data about your school's facility, health, physical education and safety policies; food service; and environmental and sustainability curriculum.

ED-GRS recognizes schools taking a comprehensive approach to greening their school. A comprehensive approach incorporates environmental learning with improving environmental and health impacts. Becoming a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School is a two-step process. The first step is to complete and submit this form to be selected as a nominee by NCDPI. Once selected as a nominee, the second step of the process requires signatures for the Nominee Presentation Form that will be sent to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) along with your application.

ED selects honorees from those presented by eligible nominating authorities nationwide. Selection will be based on documentation of the applicant's high achievement in the three ED-GRS Pillars:

Pillar I: Reduce environmental impact and costs.

Pillar II: Improve the health and wellness of students and staff.

Pillar III: Provide effective environmental and sustainability education. Incorporating STEM, civic skills and green career pathways should be described as it relates to environmental and sustainable education.

Schools demonstrating exemplary achievement in all three Pillars will receive highest rankings. It is important to document concrete achievement. It will help you to assemble a team to complete the application. This team might include: a facilities manager, physical education director, food services director, curriculum director, finance department representatives, teachers and students.

You should consult the ED-GRS [Green Strides Resources Page and Webinar Series](#) for standards, programs and grants related to each Pillar, Element and question. The "Resources" link from the website will also assist in addressing the various elements of the Pillars. In addition, previous applications from across the United States including North Carolina are on the [USED Green Ribbon Schools](#) website under "Awards". This is an excellent clearinghouse of information for all schools, not only those who apply.

The questions in this application will help you demonstrate your high achievement in these Pillars as well as provide space for you to include pertinent documentation. For consistency, please use the template format. This document is provided in MS Word for your convenience. Note the maximum length of the submittal is 17 pages including any tables or photographs. No exceptions.

The "Check Boxes" can be marked by double clicking and choosing "checked" under the Default Value.



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Photos. Between 4 and 7 action photos should be included within the application narrative. Note you should obtain releases from parents for any students and from any adults shown in the photographs. By sending photos, you are giving NCDPI and U.S. Department of Education permission to use them in our newsletter and social media.

Applications are due by January 30, 2019. Submittal is by email only. Submit the completed MS Word document to Nathan.Maune@dpi.nc.gov. Please note in subject "2019 Green Ribbon Schools".

Questions can be addressed to Ron Collier at the email address above or by calling (919) 807-3562.

Note that if selected for nomination to ED-GRS, the school principal and district superintendent must be prepared to certify that each of the statements below concerning the school's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true; however, in no case is a private school required to make any certification with regards to the public school district in which it is located.

1. The school has some configuration that includes one or more of grades Pre-K-12. (Schools on the same campus with one principal, even a Pre-K-12 school, must apply as an entire school.)
2. The school has been evaluated and selected from among schools within the Nominating Authority's jurisdiction as highest achieving in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental and sustainability education.
3. Neither the nominated public school nor its public school district is refusing the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) access to information necessary to investigate a civil rights complaint or to conduct a district wide compliance review.
4. OCR has not issued a violation letter of findings to the public school district concluding that the nominated public school or the public school district as a whole has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes. A violation letter of findings will not be considered outstanding if OCR has accepted a corrective action plan to remedy the violation.
5. The U.S. Department of Justice does not have a pending suit alleging that the public school or the public school district as a whole has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or the Constitution's equal protection clause.
6. There are no findings of violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in a U.S. Department of Education monitoring report that apply to the public school or public school district in question; or if there are such findings, the state or public school district has corrected, or agreed to correct, the findings.
7. The school meets all applicable federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.



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Application Outline: The following is an overview of the point system for evaluation of the application.

ED-GRS Pillars and Elements	Points
Cross-Cutting Question: Participation in green school programs	5 points
Pillar I: Reduce environmental impact and costs: 30%	
Element 1A: Reduced or eliminated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions Energy Buildings	15 points
Element 1B: Improved water quality, efficiency, and conservation Water Grounds	5 points
Element 1C: Reduced waste production Waste Hazardous waste	5 points
Element 1D: Use of alternative transportation	5 points
Pillar II: Improve the health and wellness of students and staff: 30%	
Element 2A: Integrated school environmental health program Integrated Pest Management Contaminant controls and Ventilation Asthma control Indoor air quality Moisture control Chemical management	15 points
Element 2B: Nutrition and fitness Fitness and outdoor time Food and Nutrition Other coordinated school health programming	15 points
Pillar III: Provide effective environmental and sustainability education. Incorporating STEM, civic skills and green career pathways as it relates to environmental and sustainable education: 35%	
Element 3A: Interdisciplinary learning about the key relationship between dynamic environmental, energy and human systems	20 points
Element 3B: Use of the environment and sustainability to develop STEM content, knowledge, and thinking skills	5 points
Element 3C: Development and application of civic knowledge and skills	10 points
Total	100 points