



Green Ribbon Schools Information

The U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS) recognition award honors schools that are exemplary in reducing environmental impact and costs; improving the health and wellness of students and staff; and providing effective environmental and sustainability education, which incorporates STEM, civic skills and green career pathways. The recognition award is part of a larger U.S. Department of Education (ED) effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about practices that are proven to result in improved student engagement, higher academic achievement and graduation rates, and workforce preparedness, as well as a government wide goal of increasing energy independence and economic security.

The award recognizes schools that meet a variety of existing standards, implementing or employing numerous complementary policies and resources. It is a nation-wide recognition award, *not a grant*. It incents change by communicating high standards and recognizing the most exemplary schools or individuals according to specified criteria.

The application process provides a learning tool for schools to obtain a baseline assessment in all three Pillars. Numerous other initiatives such as LEED certification, environmental education and Michigan Green Ribbon Schools participation helps schools to build excellence toward the three Pillars required through the ED-GRS recognition award. The application process takes place in the Fall.

If you are interested, there is more information at these ED-GRS sites:

Blog <http://www.ed.gov/blog/tag/green-ribbon-schools/>

Website <http://www.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools>.

Email green.ribbon.schools@ed.gov.

Nominees for the award must be submitted through the Michigan Department of Education. For more information, visit:

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_2629-271090--,00.html

Questions About the Program? Want to Apply?

Contact Patty Cantu (cantup@michigan.gov) at the Michigan Department of Education

Please note:

U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools is a federal recognition award and should not be confused with any green schools program conducted by non-governmental entities.

“Preparing our children to be good environmental citizens is some of the most important work any of us can do. It’s work that will serve future generations and quite literally sustain our world.”

U.S. Secretary of Education
Arne Duncan announcing the
Green Ribbon Schools
program



Green Ribbon Schools annually recognizes the highest performing green schools in the nation that are exemplary in reducing environmental impact and costs; improving health and wellness; and providing effective environmental and sustainability education

For more information on the benefits of greening your school or to get started, check out [Eco-Schools USA](http://www.ecoschoolsusa.org) (www.ecoschoolsusa.org)

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