

Air & Energy Grants

Kansas Department of Health & Environment

Kansas Association for Conservation & Environmental Education



Contact Information

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Background

The Kansas Green Schools Program is a program of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE). The program is administered by KACEE with funds provided by the Bureau of Air, the Bureau of Waste Management, the Bureau of Water, and the Bureau of Environmental Remediation. The following guidance, in its entirety, refers to **Air & Energy Grants**. For information on grants for water or waste management, please refer to these guidance documents at: www.kansasgreenschools.org/grants.

The purpose of the Kansas Green Schools Program (KGSP) is to increase awareness and understanding of the complex environmental interrelationships that:

- Impact public health and the environment
- Promote environmental stewardship practices as they relate to air quality and energy efficiency

KGSP Goals for Air & Energy Grants

- Encourage actions to improve schools through an integrated holistic approach in areas including, but not limited to, community air quality, energy efficiency, renewable energy and green space infrastructure.
- Provide grants, in the **maximum amount of \$4,500**, as available for project planning and implementation and related training for teachers.

Eligible Entities

Any public or private K-12 school in Kansas that is registered on the KGSP Network may apply for a Green Schools grant. Please visit the Web site to register, registration is free: www.kansasgreenschools.org.

General Air and Energy Grant Guidelines

- Maximum award for an Air and Energy grant is **\$4,500**, a detailed budget is required.
- Applications are to be submitted electronically at www.kansasgreenschools.org, please select **Air & Energy** online grant application form.
- The deadline for submitting an application is **February 15, 2011**.
- NOTE: A portion of this round of grant funding gives priority to schools in and around Allen County, Kansas but is not limited to these schools.
- A school receiving an Air & Energy grant is required to submit a report of activities during the final implementation phase of the project. **Ten percent of the total grant award is held by the grantor until a final report is submitted.** Please see the **Air and Energy Report Template** at: www.kansasgreenschools.org.
- Two schools may combine a maximum of two Air & Energy grants or \$9,000 maximum for one larger project that can be used by both schools to fulfill the goals of KGSP. Project and budget details must be clearly stated. Both schools are required to submit written reports of activities.
- A school receiving KGSP grant funding for Water or Waste projects may also apply for an Air & Energy grant in the same year **if** the following conditions apply:

1. Projects must be completed within specified timelines for all of the grant received by a school **AND**
2. Funding is available

As these cases are more complicated than a single award for a single project please contact, Rachel Wahle at rwahle@kacee.org for availability of such an opportunity. Please also contact Maureen Ruhlman if part of your project involves Waste Management grant funding at mruhlman@kdheks.gov.

Eligible Projects

Air and Energy grant projects should have a positive effect on health and the environment by taking action to reduce air pollution and/or save energy. Funded projects are **required** to have a classroom education component.

Eligible projects include but are not limited to:

- Continuing Education professional development fees and travel stipends for teachers: related to environmental education, air quality, energy efficiency, alternative energy, green space/school gardens. (See **Ineligible Projects and Expenses** below for more details)
- Offsite Student Environmental Education: Supplemental to classroom activities such as EARTH or Water Festivals, zoos, science centers, field experiences, etc. related to air quality, energy efficiency, alternative energy, green space/school gardens..
- Community Air Quality (Monitoring, efforts that improve air quality, public or family outreach to encourage air friendly practices, diesel school bus retrofits (EPA verified technologies only), paying add-on costs for purchase of hybrid cars for drivers education)
- Energy Efficiency (Energy management audits; improved efficiency; conservation and reduction, acquired energy savings; converting schools to Energy Star)
- Alternative Energy (Wind, solar, other renewable energy projects)
- School Green Space (Low-maintenance ornamental gardens that reduce lawn care, vegetable gardens, employing green infrastructures such as bio-retention cells, outdoor classrooms or Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites-OWLS)
- Waste Management (Switch from regular cleaning products for low-toxicity cleaning products)

Ineligible Projects and Expenses

The following **projects** are **ineligible** for funding:

- Projects that do not include an air quality or energy efficiency component
- Projects that do not include a classroom environmental education component
- Projects that include the use of equipment to reduce diesel emissions from school buses that is not an EPA verified technology: Web site for details: <http://www.epa.gov/OTAQ/retrofit/verif-list.htm>

The following **expenses** accrued during **funded projects** that are **ineligible** for payment:

- Salaries for ongoing personnel is to be avoided
- The costs of preparing grant applications

- Costs incurred prior to the beginning of the fiscal reimbursement period of the grant contract.
- Costs incurred after the ending of the fiscal reimbursement period of the grant contract

Funding Match Option and Cost Sharing

No matching of funds for Air & Energy grants are required, however a **detailed budget** of how the grant funds will be spent as well as other monies for projects that exceed \$4,500 is necessary for our accounting purposes. Please see the application for details and a sample budget: www.kansasgreenschools.org.

Grant Administration and Reimbursement of Expenses

Successful applicants will be required to sign and submit a grant agreement that obligates the school to the following:

- Agreement to complete the activities outlined in the grant proposal within the grant period.
- Agreement to utilize funding as outlined within the grant proposal within the specified grant period.
- Agreement to provide KACEE with a mid-year update on grant related activities by January 15th of the grant cycle.
- Agreement to provide KACEE with a final report available for download at: <http://www.kansasgreenschools.org/kansas-green-schools-air-quality-grants>

Upon execution of the signed grant agreement, the school will issued a check of 95% of the approved funding. The final 5% of the funding will be retained until the final report is completed.