



### KANSAS GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS OVERVIEW

**Introduction:** The U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools award is intended to recognize those schools taking a comprehensive approach to greening their school. A comprehensive approach incorporates and *integrates environmental learning* with *maximizing positive environmental and health impacts*. The award criteria are intended to focus on measurable outcomes wherever possible.

This is a two step process. The first step is to complete and submit the online form to be selected as a state nominee (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KSGreenRibbonSch>). If your school is subsequently selected, you'll be asked to complete the second step of the process by providing additional information for the nominee package that will be forwarded to the US Department of Education (ED).

Each state may submit up to four nominees to the U.S. Department of Education. Upon review, U.S. Department of Education will then award up to 50 Green Ribbons to schools based on the nominations from the states. Since not all states will choose to participate, it is highly likely that half or more of a state's nominees will win an award in this first year.

**Background:** Application reviews will be based on the applicant's demonstrated progress towards the goals of each of the *three U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools "Pillars"*:



Four items are important to keep in mind as you consider applying to become a nominee:

- 1) These are ambitious goals and few if any schools are expected to have achieved all three, or perhaps even 100% of any one of the pillars;
- 2) Schools demonstrating exemplary achievement in all three Pillars will receive the highest ranking;
- 3) It is important to demonstrate concrete achievement, using quantified measures wherever possible;
- 4) Be sure to attach supporting documents when they are available (Attachments to nomination form may be sent to [info@kansasgreenschools.org](mailto:info@kansasgreenschools.org) as PDF files please).

As you will see in the nomination form, the Department of Education has broken down each Pillar into "Elements" in order to provide more detail and explanation for what is meant by each Pillar. Each Element then has a series of questions which enable your school to demonstrate your progress. Some questions have been grouped together into categories for the sake of clarity and organization. Finally, the ***outline below will give you a sense of the weight which will be given to each Element by the application review committee.***

PILLAR ONE: <u>Net zero environmental impact</u>	
Element 1A: Zero greenhouse gas emissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy</li> <li>• Buildings</li> </ul>	15 points
Element 1B: Improved water quality, efficiency, and conservation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Grounds</li> </ul>	5 points
Element 1C: Reduced waste production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste</li> <li>• Hazardous waste</li> </ul>	5 points
Element 1D: Use of alternative transportation to, during, and from school	5 points
PILLAR TWO: <u>Net positive impact on students and staff health</u>	
Element 2A: An integrated school environmental health program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated Pest Management</li> <li>• Ventilation</li> <li>• Contaminant Controls</li> <li>• Asthma Control</li> <li>• Indoor Air quality</li> <li>• Moisture Control</li> <li>• Chemical Management</li> </ul>	20 points
Element 2B: High standards of nutrition, fitness, and quantity of quality outdoor time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fitness and Outdoor Time</li> <li>• Food</li> <li>• UV Safety</li> </ul>	10 points

<b>PILLAR THREE: <u>100% of the school's graduates are environmentally and sustainability literate</u></b>	
Element 3A: Interdisciplinary learning about the key relationships 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	10 points
Element 3C: Development and application of civic engagement knowledge and skills	10 points
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>100</b>

### Timeline:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Call for Applications	Nov. 15, 2011
Applications from Schools	Due Jan. 27, 2012
Kansas Review Team Assembled to Review Applications (KSDE, KACEE/KS Green Schools Advisors, educators, natural resource/sustainability professionals, environmental or sustainability business and industry)	Jan. 27 – Feb. 24, 2012
Recommendations sent to US Department of Education	Approx. March 22, 2012
Announcement of Green Ribbon School Awards	Slated: Earth Day 2012

### Useful Resources:

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS

- [Green Ribbon Schools Criteria](#)
- [Instructions for Use of Framework](#)
- [Framework for State Nominating Authorities](#)
- [List of Statutory and Regulatory Requirements](#)
- [Nominee Presentation Form](#)

## ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY

- [DOE EnergySmart Schools](#)
- [DOE and EPA ENERGY STAR for K-12 School Districts](#)
- [DOE America's Home Energy Education Challenge](#)
- [DOE Purchasing Specifications for Energy Efficient Products](#)
- [EPA Guidelines for Energy Management Overview](#)
- [DOE State Energy Program](#)
- [EPA WaterSenseDo Something](#)
- [Consortium for School Networking Initiative Green Computing for K-12 Schools](#)
- [Kansas Corporation Commission: State Energy Office](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Energy Investigation](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Water Investigation](#)

## ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

- [DOT Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety](#)
- [Safe Routes to Schools](#)
- [International Walk to School Month](#)
- [Walking School Bus](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Healthy School Environment Investigation](#)

## RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

- [EPA WasteWise](#)
- [EPA Reducing Risk From Hazardous Waste](#)
- [CDC Hazardous Waste Self-Management Checklist](#)
- [EPA Tools to Reduce Waste in Schools](#)
- [Kansas Department of Health and Environment Bureau of Waste Management](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Waste and Recycling Investigation](#)

## BUILDING DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE

- [Advanced Energy Design Guide for 50% energy savings in K-12 schools](#)
- [USGBC Center for Green School Resources](#)
- [Collaborative for High Performance Schools](#)
- [American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers Green Standard](#)
- [Green Building Initiative Green Globes](#)

## AIR QUALITY

- [EPA Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools](#)
- [EPA Assessing Outdoor Air Near Schools](#)

- [EPA Clean School Bus USA](#)
- [EPA Healthy Schools Environments Assessment Tool](#)
- [EPA Managing Asthma in Schools](#)
- [CDC Tools for Making Your School Asthma-Friendly](#)
- [Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Air](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Healthy School Environment Investigation](#)

#### Contaminant Management

- [EPA Buy Clean](#)
- [EPA Integrated Pest Management for Schools](#)
- [EPA Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign](#)
- [EPA Radon Information](#)
- [CDC Guidelines for School Health Programs to Prevent Tobacco Use](#)
- [EPA Managing Asbestos in Schools](#)
- [EPA Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting in Schools](#)
- [EPA Proper Maintenance, Removal and Disposal of PCB-Containing Lights](#)
- [CDC Underground Storage Tank Self-Inspection Checklist](#)
- [EPA Schools and Mercury](#)
- [EPA Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings](#)
- [Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Environmental Remediation](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Healthy School Environment Investigation](#)

#### Nutrition and Fitness

- [The First Lady's Let's Move!](#)
- [The President's Challenge](#)
- [USDA's Healthier US School Challenge, Garden School Program, Agriculture In the Classroom and Farm to School Program.](#)
- [EPA Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities and Partnership for A Healthier America](#)
- [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#)
- [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#)
- [PreventObesity](#)
- [Green Thumb Challenge](#)
- [Healthy Schools Campaign, School Food and Fitness](#)
- [National Healthy Schools Day](#)
- [Kansas Department of Agriculture](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools School Gardens Program](#)

## Teaching and Learning Energy

- [EPA Student's Guide to Global Climate Change](#)
- [DOE EnergyKids](#)
- [EPA Climate Change: What You Can Do At School](#)
- [EPA Energy Star Join the Fight Against Climate Change](#)
- [DOE H2 Educate](#)
- [Green Energy Challenge](#)
- [Project Earth](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Energy Investigation](#)

## STEM Content Knowledge and Thinking Skills

- [White House Educate to Innovate](#)
- [DOE STEM Teacher Development](#)

## Environmental Education

- [Excellence in Environmental Education Guidelines for Learning \(K-12\)](#)
- [ED Federal Resources for Educational Excellence, Environment](#)
- [NOAA Climate Services: Education](#)
- [NOAA B-WET](#)
- [EPA Environmental Education Grants](#)
- [EPA Teacher Resources and Lesson Plans](#)
- [EPA President's Environmental Youth Awards](#)
- [Eco-Schools USA](#)
- [Nature Net Educational Resources](#)
- [US Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development](#)
- [National Education for Sustainability K-12 Student Learning Standards](#)
- [Project Learning Tree's \*Green Schools!\*](#)
- [Facing the Future's Curriculum and Lesson Finder](#)
- [Alliance for Climate Education](#)
- [Green Education Foundation Sustainability Education Clearinghouse](#)
- [National Resources Defense Council Green Squad](#)
- [Kids for Saving the Earth Program List](#)
- [Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education](#)
- [Kansas Green Schools Program](#)

## Connecting to Local Outdoors

- [National Park Service Education Resources](#)

- [National Wildlife Federation How To Create Schoolyard Habitats](#)
- [Fish and Wildlife Service Schoolyard Habitats](#)
- [Hands on the Land](#)
- [School Garden Wizard](#)
- [Climate Change Wildlife and Wildlands Toolkit for Formal and Informal Educators](#)
- [Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites](#)
- [Kansas Forest Service](#)
- [Go Play Kansas](#)
- [Kansans for Children in Nature](#)

For more information, please contact:

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