

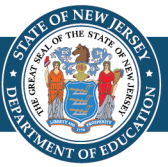


# New Jersey Department of Education



## Climate Literacy through Community Resilience (CLCR) NGO # 25-WB04-G02 Technical Assistance Session

Climate Change Education Unit  
Division of Teaching and Learning Services  
December 12, 2024





# Questions and Answers



- All questions must be submitted electronically to one of the email addresses below. No questions will be answered live during this session.
- Please direct questions regarding the Electronic Web Enabled Grant (EWEG) online application system to [eweghelp@doe.nj.gov](mailto:eweghelp@doe.nj.gov).
- Please direct programmatic questions to [climateeducation@doe.nj.gov](mailto:climateeducation@doe.nj.gov).
  - Answers to programmatic questions received by December 17, 2024, at [climateeducation@doe.nj.gov](mailto:climateeducation@doe.nj.gov) will be posted on the [NGO webpage](https://www.nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02_NGO.shtml) (nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02\_NGO.shtml).
  - The Program Office (Climate Change Education Unit) is not permitted to provide a response to programmatic questions received after December 17, 2024.

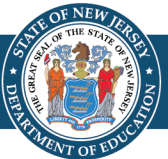




# Technical Assistance Session Overview



- The slides from this presentation will be posted by December 13, 2024, on the [Notice of Grant Opportunity \(NGO\) webpage](https://nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02_NGO.shtml) (nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02\_NGO.shtml).
- This session will provide an overview of the major components of the NGO and the application process.
- Applicants are advised to thoroughly read the NGO for a complete understanding of the grant.





# Background (1 of 3)



- With the adoption of the [2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards \(NJSLS\) that integrate Climate Change Education](https://nj.gov/education/climate/learning/gradeband/) (nj.gov/education/climate/learning/gradeband/), New Jersey became the first state in the nation to require the teaching of climate change across multiple content areas, including in:
  - Visual and Performing Arts
  - Comprehensive Health and Physical Education
  - Science
  - Social Studies
  - World Languages
  - Computer Science and Design Thinking
  - Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills

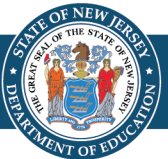




## Background (2 of 3)



- Additionally, the 2023 NJSLS in [English Language Arts](https://www.nj.gov/education/standards/ela/) (ELA) (nj.gov/education/standards/ela/) and [Mathematics](https://www.nj.gov/education/standards/math/) (nj.gov/education/standards/math/) identify the standards through which climate change topics could be integrated as an interdisciplinary, authentic learning experience.
- Collectively, these initiatives prepare students to understand how and why climate change happens, the impact it has on our local and global communities, and how to act in informed and sustainable ways.
- In the fiscal year (FY) 2023 State budget, Governor Phil Murphy allocated \$4.5 million to support schools with the implementation of climate change education in New Jersey.





# Background (3 of 3)



- The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) administered the Climate Awareness Education grant opportunities (NGO #'s 23-WB01-G02 and 23-WB02-G02) in fulfillment of the FY 23 State budget appropriation.
- In the FY 2024 State budget, Governor Murphy allocated an additional \$4.5 million to support schools with the implementation of climate change education in New Jersey.
- The NJDOE administered the Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards through Interdisciplinary Learning and Community Resilience Project and Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards through Climate Change Learning Collaboratives grant opportunities (NGO #s 24-WB05-G02 and 24-WB06-G02) in fulfillment of the FY 24 State budget appropriation.
- The NJDOE is offering this grant opportunity in partial fulfillment of the FY 2025 State budget appropriation.





# Overview (1 of 2)



- The goals and expectations of this grant opportunity are to:
  1. Expand equitable access to high-quality, standards-based climate change education for K–12 students.
  2. Encourage student-centered experiential learning opportunities and engagement in location-based climate change solutions.
  3. Expand and strengthen a network of local education agencies (LEAs) dedicated to sharing best practices and resources for implementing climate change education across New Jersey.
- Local education agencies (LEAs) will plan, coordinate, and execute an interdisciplinary, project-based unit plan and a corresponding student-led community resilience project focused on climate action and solutions in the students' local community.





# Overview (2 of 2)



- The 12-month project period for this grant opportunity is **June 1, 2025, to May 31, 2026.**
- The application for this grant opportunity can be found in the EWEG online application system under the title of “Climate Literacy through Community Resilience”.
- Each applicant must have login credentials to access the application through the EWEG system.
- LEA applicants should contact their district’s Web ([Homeroom](https://homeroom.state.nj.us/) (<https://homeroom.state.nj.us/>)) Administrator for access to EWEG.
- Applications are due in the EWEG online application system by **Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.**







# Eligibility to Apply (1 of 2)



- This limited competitive grant opportunity is open to operating New Jersey LEAs that did **not** receive funding via the FY 24 Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards through Interdisciplinary Learning and Community Resilience Projects grant opportunity (NGO # 24-WB05-G02).
- To effectively implement a community resilience project, the LEA must collaborate with their regional Climate Change Learning Collaborative (CCLC) and at least one community partner (e.g., their municipality, a community-based nonprofit organization (CBO) that is currently engaged in place-based environmental education in their region, etc.
  - The NJDOE is requiring LEAs to develop partnerships for this NGO to ensure the development of culturally responsive and locally focused community resilience projects.



## Eligibility to Apply (2 of 2)

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- Applicants must ensure the mission, vision, and general services of their partner(s) align with the intent of the NJSLS supporting Climate Change Education and the goals of this grant program.
- An eligible LEA may submit only one application.

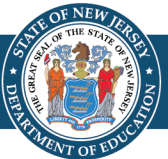




# Project Considerations: Overview



The purpose of this grant program is to support LEAs as they plan, develop, and implement a locally focused, interdisciplinary climate change education unit plan and a corresponding student-led community resilience project aligned with the NJSLS supporting climate change education.





# Project Considerations: Mandatory Goals



- The overarching goals of this program are to:
  1. Expand equitable access to high-quality, standards-based climate change education for K–12 students.
  2. Encourage student-centered experiential learning opportunities and engagement in location-based climate change solutions.
  3. Expand and strengthen a network of LEAs dedicated to sharing best practices and resources for implementing climate change education across New Jersey.
- Applicants must outline a clear, detailed plan as to how they will achieve these goals and provide justification for their plan of action.





## Project Considerations: Mandatory Objectives (1 of 3)

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- There are five mandatory objectives related to the three mandatory goals.
- The five mandatory objectives must be included in the applicant's plan to achieve the mandatory goals.
- When completing the application, applicants must expand upon each objective, providing details as to how they will fit into the applicant's specific project plan.



## Project Considerations: Mandatory Objectives (2 of 3)



- Goal 1: Expand equitable access to high-quality, standards-based climate change education for K-12 students.
  - Objective 1.1: Develop a shared understanding of the community's local climate change context.
  - Objective 1.2: Develop an interdisciplinary climate literacy unit plan within the grant period.
- Goal 2: Encourage student-centered experiential learning opportunities and engagement in location-based climate change solutions.
  - Objective 2.1: Develop a student-led community resilience project.



## Project Considerations: Mandatory Objectives (3 of 3)

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- Goal 3: Expand and strengthen a network of LEAs dedicated to sharing best practices and resources for implementing climate change education across New Jersey.
  - Objective 3.1: Establish a partnership with the LEA's regional CCLC to further their climate change education initiatives.
  - Objective 3.2: Disseminate promising practices across the state, region, and nation.



# Mandatory Objective 1.1: Local Focus



- Objective 1.1: Develop a shared understanding of the community's local climate change context.
  - Describe how the LEA will engage teachers and administrators in learning opportunities offered by their CCLC and community partners during the first two months of their project period to identify climate change issues facing their community.





# Mandatory Objective 1.2: Unit Plan



- Objective 1.2: Develop an interdisciplinary climate literacy unit plan within the grant period.
  - Describe how the unit plan, which may be developed in collaboration with the CCLC and community-based partners, will be crafted to address the eight key elements listed in the forthcoming slides.
  - The application does not need to provide details for each key element at this time but should ensure that a plan is in place to incorporate each of them during the planning and implementation phase.



# Unit Plan Key Elements (1 of 4)



- **Focus on local climate change context:** LEA teachers and administrators, in collaboration with their CCLC and community partners, will develop an interdisciplinary unit plan that supports students' exploration of their community's climate change issues.
- **Standards-based:** Ground the unit in the NJSLS supporting climate change education with specific performance expectations.



# Unit Plan Key Elements (2 of 4)



- **Interdisciplinary:** Intentionally integrate at least four content areas (ELA, mathematics; science; social studies; visual & performing arts; comprehensive health & physical education; world languages; computer science & design thinking; and career readiness, life literacies & key skills) in the unit. The unit plan development team must include representatives from each content area identified in the project plan.
- **Climate justice orientation:** The unit plan must explore how and why climate change impacts are unevenly distributed in local communities. Extensions may be made to explore this across the nation and the globe.



## Unit Plan Key Elements (3 of 4)




- **Project-based:** Describe how this unit will be designed to incorporate a project-based learning approach where the learning environment is student-centered so that students can explore complex interdisciplinary problems and develop actionable solutions.
- **Experiential approach:** Describe how this unit will integrate student-centered experiential learning opportunities.



# Unit Plan Key Elements (4 of 4)



- **Universal Design for Learning (UDL):** Describe how the unit plan and the instructional resources and assessments that are part of the unit plan are developed following UDL principles.
- **Diversity, equity, and inclusion:** Describe how the unit plan is intentionally designed to highlight the contributions and experiences of individuals with diverse abilities, cultures, identities, and perspectives.




# Mandatory Objective 2.1: Community Resilience Project (1 of 2)



Objective 2.1: Develop a student-led community resilience project.

- Describe how your community resilience project, which may be crafted with the support of your CCLC and community-based partners, will include the following key elements.
- The application does not need to provide details for each key element at this time but should ensure that a plan is in place to incorporate each of them during the planning and implementation phases.





# Mandatory Objective 2.1: Community Resilience Project (2 of 2)



- The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) defines community resilience as the ability of a community to prepare for anticipated hazards, adapt to changing conditions, and withstand and recover rapidly from changes in the environment and climate.
- This grant program intends to support LEAs in their ongoing work to forge strong connections with their community and to help develop a sense of action and agency through student-led community resilience projects.





# Community Resilience Project Key Elements (1 of 4)



- **Community partnership:** The grantee must collaborate with at least one community partner to complete their community resilience project.
  - Applicants must ensure the mission, vision, and general services of the community partner(s) align with the intent of the NJSLS supporting Climate Change Education and the goals of this grant program.
  - The community partner(s) for this project must have the capacity and logistical experience to address the climate change issues that the community resilience project may address.
  - At a minimum, bimonthly meetings between the grantee and its community partner(s) must occur to plan and review progress toward the completion of the community resilience project.





## Community Resilience Project Key Elements (2 of 4)



- **Climate resilience strategies:** The community resilience project must develop a solution, or multiple solutions, to local climate change-related issues identified as a result of meeting Mandatory Objective 1.1 and as addressed in the unit plan.
  - Solution strategies may be identified in collaboration with community partner(s), and may include specific strategies for mitigation, prevention, and/or adaptation to address the climate change related issues addressed in the unit plan.



## Community Resilience Project Key Elements (3 of 4)



Community resilience projects identified by grantees may fall under different categories including, but not limited to:

- Climate and other weather-related mitigation.
- Energy (uses, efficiency, sources).
- Food and waste management.
- Land use and remediation.
- Human health, safety, and environmental justice.
- Civil engineering and architecture.



## Community Resilience Project Key Elements (4 of 4)



**Community engagement:** The resilience project must include multiple opportunities for students to learn from and provide learning opportunities to their community related to their resilience project goals.

- Students must gather information from community members to inform their resilience project goals and outcomes through conducting surveys, charrettes, interviews, etc.
- Students must share learning opportunities with their community via social media, in-person presentations, videos, webinars, etc.



## Mandatory Objective 3.1: CCLC Partnership (1 of 2)



Objective 3.1: Establish a partnership with the LEA's regional CCLC to further their climate change education initiatives.

- The CCLCs were established by the NJDOE in a previous FY24 grant opportunity and will be ready to provide services to the new cohort of FY25 LEAs by June 1, 2025.
- The CCLCs will be available as a resource to grantees when developing their climate change education unit plan and implementing their community resilience project.
- The CCLCs will host a culminating event to showcase the work of their participating partner LEAs and CBOs.




## **Mandatory Objective 3.1: CCLC Partnership (2 of 2)**



For the partnership requirement to be met, the grantee must:

- Attend a mandatory training session provided by their CCLC.
- Nominate a student representative to serve on their CCLC's student advisory board.
- Complete at least one of the following tasks:
  - Participate in a professional development event offered by the CCLC.
  - Engage in an educator experiential learning opportunity provided by the CCLC.



## Mandatory Objective 3.2: Dissemination of Promising Practices (1 of )



Objective 3.2: Disseminate promising practices across the state, region, and nation by:

- **Collecting program data:** The grantee must have a plan to collect program data to assess progress toward program goals and objectives. This data must be made available to the NJDOE upon request.
- **Sharing developed materials:** The grantee must share the interdisciplinary unit plan and any plans associated with their community resilience project with the NJDOE and regional CCLC.

## Mandatory Objective 3.2: Dissemination of Promising Practices (2 of 2)



- **Presenting developed materials:** At the request of the NJDOE, the grantee must present an overview of their unit plan and community resilience project in a live or recorded webinar or as an in-person presentation. This may include presentations at CCLC culminating events.
- **Mentoring other LEAs:** The grantee must serve as a mentor to other New Jersey LEAs, at their request, by providing them with guidance and/or technical support.
- **Funding acknowledgment:** Grantees must include a funding acknowledgment on all materials that are created as a part of this funded project.
  - See NGO Section II.4. Project Design Consideration, Mandatory Objectives, Objective 3.2.e.





# Mandatory Project Design Elements (1 of 3)



The following project design elements must be met by grantees:

- **Execution of the approved project within the project period:** The grantee must execute the project plan that was approved by the Program Office within the grant project period (June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026).
  - Any changes made to the project plan (e.g., goals, objectives, timeline, deliverables, etc.) must be submitted in a timely manner as an amendment request, which needs to be reviewed and approved by the NJDOE prior to the implementation of any changes.





## Mandatory Project Design Elements (2 of 3)



- **Not for profit:** Grantees and their partner(s) are not permitted to profit from events, work products, etc. undertaken or developed through this grant program.
  - LEAs and their partner(s) may not commercialize work products developed under this grant program and must make any work products developed under this grant program freely available. Work products developed under this grant program must remain non-commercialized and freely available after the end of the project period.
- **Reports and data collection:** Grantees must submit all required reports and assist in the collection of relevant qualitative and quantitative data to evaluate LEA progress on the implementation of climate change education initiatives.



# Mandatory Project Design Elements (3 of 3)



- **Community of practice:** Grantees must engage in a community of practice.
  - Participation in a statewide support network for the implementation of climate change education requires a positive, collaborative atmosphere among all grantees.
  - Collaboration is key to maximizing expertise and providing high-quality climate change education.
- **Program persistence:** Successful programs established with this funding should be sustainable beyond the end of the 12-month project period.



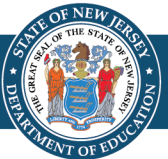
# Application Requirements (1 of 4)

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Applicants are required to fill out the following tabs, including all subtabs, in the EWEG online application system:

Admin





# Application Requirements (2 of 4)



Applicants are required to fill out the following tabs, including all subtabs, in the EWEG online application system:

- Admin
- Narrative
  1. Abstract (0 points)
  2. Need (6 points)
  3. Project Description (40 points)
  4. Goals and Objectives (10 points)
  5. Project Activity Plan (16 points)
  6. Commitment and Capacity (18 points)



# Application Requirements (3 of 4)



Applicants are required to fill out the following tabs, including all subtabs, in the EWEG online application system:

- Admin
- Narrative
- Budget (10 points)





# Application Requirements (4 of 4)



Applicants are required to fill out the following tabs, including all subtabs, in the EWEG online application system:

- Admin
- Narrative
- Budget
- Upload

Upload Name	Form Location
Documentation of Required Collaboration (Appendix 1)	NGO
Program Statement of Assurances (Appendix 2)	NGO
Target Grade(s) Acknowledgement (Appendix 7)	NGO



# Application Narrative Template



- Appendix 5 of the NGO document is a template to support the development of the Narrative tab and sub-tabs.
- Headings for each required component are included for the Project Narrative and Commitment & Capacity sub-tabs.
- Mandatory Goals and Objectives are provided for the Goals & Objectives sub-tab.





# Application Review Criteria (1 of 3)



- All applications will undergo a two-tiered review process.
- First, the application will be reviewed and scored by a panel of three evaluators.
  - The evaluators will only use the information provided in the EWEG grant application under the Narrative subtabs and the Budget subtabs and all required uploaded documentation.
- In addition to how well this content addresses the goals and objectives of the grant opportunity, the evaluators will also review the application for completeness and accuracy.







# Application Review Criteria (2 of 3)



- The second review is done by the Program Office responsible for administering the program.
- The NJDOE reserves the right to reject any application that is not in conformance with the requirements and intent of this NGO.
- After the review process is complete, the EWEG system should notify applicants of decisions through emails to the individuals listed in the Contacts subtab.
- In addition to the email notification, the status of the application in the EWEG system will change from “Submitted for Review” to either “Preliminary Approved” or “No Award”.



# Application Review Criteria (3 of 3)



- The total point value for this NGO is 100 points, and applicants must receive at least 70 points to be considered for an award.
- **Bonus Points:** LEAs scoring a minimum of seventy (70) points on the grant application may receive bonus points in the following manner:
  - SDA LEAs will receive seven (7) bonus points during the application review process.
  - Any LEA that targets their unit plan and corresponding community resilience project for any grade in the K-5 band will receive five (5) bonus points.
    - SDA LEAs will be eligible for these five (5) bonus points in addition to the seven (7) bonus points they will receive as an SDA LEA.





# Funding and Awards (1 of 3)



For the purposes of this grant program, New Jersey has been geographically divided into three regions (northern, central, and southern).

Ramapo College Northern Region	Rutgers University Central Region	Monmouth University Central Region	Stockton University Southern Region
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bergen County</li><li>• Essex County</li><li>• Hudson County</li><li>• Morris County</li><li>• Passaic County</li><li>• Sussex County</li><li>• Warren County</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hunterdon County</li><li>• Middlesex County</li><li>• Somerset County</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mercer County</li><li>• Monmouth County</li><li>• Union County</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Atlantic County</li><li>• Burlington County</li><li>• Camden County</li><li>• Cape May County</li><li>• Cumberland County</li><li>• Gloucester County</li><li>• Ocean County</li><li>• Salem County</li></ul>



# Funding and Awards (2 of 3)



- The NJDOE expects to make up to 40 awards.
- Applicants may each apply for up to \$30,500.
- 10 awards will be reserved exclusively for Schools Development Authority (SDA) LEAs.
  - SDA LEAs will be awarded in rank order regardless of regional designation.
  - Any SDA LEAs that receive a passing score but do not receive one of the 10 awards reserved for SDA LEAs will be eligible for the awards within their region.



# Funding and Awards (3 of 3)



- The remaining 30 awards will be distributed evenly across the three regions.
  - 10 awards are designated for LEAs in each region.
  - These awards will be made in rank order by region.
- If there are not enough applications that receive a passing score to make the maximum number of awards reserved for SDA LEAs and/or the maximum number of awards designated for a region, the NJDOE expects to distribute the remaining funds in rank order to eligible LEAs regardless of SDA designation or region.



# Orientation and Reporting



- Grantees will be required to attend a program orientation and quarterly meetings and submit fiscal and activity reports via the EWEG system throughout the project period.
- This is a reimbursement-only grant opportunity.

Report Number:	Reporting period:	Date Due:
Interim Report 1	June 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025	9/30/2025
Interim Report 2	June 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025	12/31/2025
Interim Report 3	June 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026	3/31/2026
Final Report*	June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026	7/31/2026
*Includes 60-day liquidation period.		



# Summary



- This grant opportunity intends to deepen understanding and implementation of the NJSLS supporting Climate Change Education.
- The 12-month project period for this grant opportunity is June 1, 2025, to May 31, 2026.
- There are three goals, five objectives, and five project design elements that must be addressed in the applicant's project plan.
- The NGO provides explicit instructions for what information applicants must include in each subtab of the application.
- Applications are due in the EWEG online application system by **Thursday, January 30, 2025, by 4:00 p.m.**





# Conclusion



- This session provided an overview of the major components of the NGO and the application process.
- Applicants are advised to thoroughly read the NGO for a complete understanding of the grant.
- The slides from this presentation will be posted by December 13, 2024, on the [NGO webpage](https://nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02_NGO.shtml) (nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02\_NGO.shtml)





# Reminder: Questions and Answers



- All questions must be submitted electronically to one of the email addresses below. There will be no Q&A period at the end of this presentation.
- Please direct questions regarding the EWEG online application system to [eweghelp@doe.nj.gov](mailto:eweghelp@doe.nj.gov).
- Please direct programmatic questions to [climateeducation@doe.nj.gov](mailto:climateeducation@doe.nj.gov).
  - Answers to any programmatic questions received by December 17, 2024, at [climateeducation@doe.nj.gov](mailto:climateeducation@doe.nj.gov) will be posted on the [NGO webpage](https://nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02_NGO.shtml) ([nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02\\_NGO.shtml](https://nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/2025/25-WB04-G02_NGO.shtml)).
  - The Program Office is not permitted to provide a response to programmatic questions received after December 17, 2024.



# Thank You!

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[NJ Climate Change Education Resources \(nj.gov/education/climate/\)](http://nj.gov/education/climate/)

Program Office Email: [climateeducation@doe.nj.gov](mailto:climateeducation@doe.nj.gov)

EWEG Help Desk: [eweghelp@doe.nj.gov](mailto:eweghelp@doe.nj.gov)





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