



**For Immediate Release**

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## **New Jersey Department of Education Announces the Award of \$2.37 Million in Grants to Enhance Climate Change Instruction**

**Trenton, NJ** – The New Jersey Department of Education today announced awards of \$2.37 million for three separate grant opportunities to help schools make climate-change instruction more meaningful, impactful, and experiential for students. The grants, funded through Governor Murphy’s Fiscal Year 2025 budget, are part of a multi-faceted effort advanced by First Lady Tammy Murphy to introduce more comprehensive climate change instruction in New Jersey’s classrooms.

“New Jersey is leading the way when it comes to climate change instruction in our schools,” **said First Lady Tammy Murphy**, who in 2020 successfully advocated for New Jersey to become the first state to have its statewide learning [standards](#) integrate climate change instruction across multiple content areas, ranging from science to social studies. “Our goal is that each class of students will have a deeper understanding of how our actions affect our environment, so they can be prepared to take on the jobs of the green economy and build a stronger and cleaner New Jersey for future generations to enjoy.”

“New Jersey’s schools lead the nation in offering comprehensive climate change education, and it’s our obligation to provide students with accurate and relevant instruction on this topic,” **said Education Commissioner Kevin Dehmer**. “These grants help us move toward that goal by helping to foster climate literacy among students and provide them with the knowledge and understanding they need to meet the challenges that climate change poses.”

The three climate change grants include:

- **Climate Change Education and Resilience Through Interdisciplinary Learning (CCERIL)** – This grant provides a second year of funding to 24 school districts and charter schools, allowing them to continue learning partnerships with local organizations or municipalities to create experiential, student-led community resilience projects that enhance climate change education.
- **Climate Literacy for Community Resilience (CLCR)** – This grant supports a new cohort of learning partnerships between seven schools and local organizations or municipalities.
- **Climate Change Learning Collaboratives (CCLCs)** – This grant continues a second year of funding to four institutions of higher education to offer regional Climate Change Learning Collaboratives that provide training, technical assistance, and experiential learning opportunities to help teachers implement climate change education in the classroom.

The grants are being used for a variety of school and community partnerships, including in Egg Harbor Township, Atlantic County, where students combat beach erosion by planting native dune grass grown by the students themselves. In Dunellen, Middlesex County, students are targeting food insecurity in their community by developing aquaponic agriculture systems and traditional soil-based gardens in partnership with a local restaurant.

## Fiscal Year 2025 Climate Change Grant Awardees

### Climate Change Education and Resilience Through Interdisciplinary Learning (CCERIL)

County	Recipient	Award
Atlantic	Atlantic City Community Charter School	\$15,000
Atlantic	Egg Harbor Township	\$14,996
Bergen	Pascack Valley Regional High School District	\$15,000
Bergen	Ridgewood Village	\$15,000
Burlington	Burlington City	\$15,000
Cape May	Cape May County Vocational School District	\$15,000
Cape May	Dennis Township	\$15,000
Cape May	Lower Cape May Regional	\$15,000
Cape May	Upper Township	\$15,000
Cumberland	Compass Academy Charter School	\$15,000
Essex	Nutley	\$15,000
Gloucester	Logan Township	\$15,000
Hudson	Hoboken	\$15,000
Middlesex	Dunellen	\$15,000
Middlesex	Sayreville	\$15,000
Monmouth	Keyport	\$15,000
Morris	Unity Charter School	\$15,000
Ocean	Pinelands Regional	\$15,000
Ocean	Point Pleasant Borough	\$15,000
Passaic	Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology	\$15,000
Passaic	Ringwood	\$15,000
Somerset	Somerville Borough	\$15,000
Sussex	Stillwater Township	\$15,000
Union	Morris-Union Jointure Commission	\$15,000
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$359,996</b>

### Climate Literacy for Community Resilience (CLCR)

County	Recipient	Award
Camden	Eastern Camden County Regional	\$29,952
Essex	Belleville	\$30,356
Essex	Montclair	\$30,500
Mercer	Hopewell Valley Regional	\$30,500
Passaic	Paterson City	\$30,500
Union	Hillside Township	\$30,500
Union	Union Township	\$30,500
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$212,808</b>

## Climate Change Learning Collaboratives (CCLCs)

Region	Recipient	Award
Northern	Ramapo College of New Jersey	\$600,000
Central	Rutgers University – New Brunswick	\$300,000
Central	Monmouth University	\$300,000
Southern	Stockton University	\$600,000
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$1,800,000</b>

The Climate Change Learning Collaboratives grant runs until March 31, 2026, and the Climate Literacy for Community Resilience and Climate Change Education and Resilience Through Interdisciplinary Learning grants run through May 31, 2026.



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