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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

September 1, 2021

(X) Action Required
Due date: January 10, 2022
(X) Informational

**BULLETIN NO. 068-21 ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING &
SECONDARY EDUCATION AND PATHWAY PREPARATION**

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers
School Principals
School Building Facilities Managers
School District Facilities Managers

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Green Ribbon Schools Recognition Program:
2021–22 Applications Available

CONTACT: Elizabeth Schmitz, Environmental and Sustainability Education Program
Supervisor, 360-725-4976, elizabeth.schmitz@k12.wa.us

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is announcing that applications are open for the U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools (US-ED GRS) Recognition Program.

U.S Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools is a comprehensive program that recognizes schools and districts that have made significant progress toward:

- Reducing the school/district's environmental footprint and cost
- Creating a safe and healthy community for students and staff
- Increasing environmental and sustainability literacy

Schools and districts will be evaluated based on their progress toward these concepts and a wide variety of green benchmarks including energy conservation and efficiency, food that is

locally sourced and sustainable, and curriculum that ensures all students are environmentally and sustainability literate.

ELIGIBILITY, APPLICATION, NOMINATION, AND AWARD

Schools and districts that wish to be considered must complete the [Washington State Green Ribbon Schools or District Application](#), available on the OSPI website. All public and private schools and public school districts are eligible to apply. Completed applications will be reviewed by a statewide selection committee. Up to five school or district nominees may be selected as state finalists. State finalists will be asked to provide some additional information and are forwarded to the U.S. Department of Education for consideration.

Applications are due January 10, 2022.

The U.S. Department of Education anticipates announcing national award recipients in May 2022. Typically, award recipients in Washington are offered a cash prize provided by Washington's local sponsor, California Casualty.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Elizabeth Schmitz, Program Supervisor of Environmental and Sustainability Education, at 360-725-4976 or email elizabeth.schmitz@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

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CR:sr

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