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Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**  
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

October 28, 2022

(X) Action Required  
Due date: January 10, 2023

**BULLETIN NO. 073-22 ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, EARLY LEARNING, SPECIAL PROGRAMS, AND FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

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: 2022–23 Application

CONTACT: Elizabeth Schmitz, Environmental and Sustainability Education Program  
Supervisor, 360-999-0841, [elizabeth.schmitz@k12.wa.us](mailto:elizabeth.schmitz@k12.wa.us)

## **PURPOSE/BACKGROUND**

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) announces that applications are open for the U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools (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 environment footprint and cost.
- Creating a safe and healthy community for students and staff.
- Increasing environmental and sustainability.

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. State-tribal compact schools and Bureau of Indian Education schools are encouraged to apply. Pre-schools, especially outdoor pre-schools, are encouraged 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 by 3 p.m. on January 10, 2023.**

The U.S. Department of Education anticipates announcing national award recipients in April 2023. Award recipients in Washington receive a cash prize ranging from \$1,000–\$5,000, 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 360-999-0841 or email [elizabeth.schmitz@k12.wa.us](mailto: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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Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education, Early Learning, Special Programs, and Federal Accountability

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CR:es

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