



Louisiana Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools Program

In partnership with the [U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools](#) (US-ED GRS) program, the Louisiana Department of Education works to recognize public and nonpublic early childhood, elementary, middle, and high schools, school systems, and higher education institutions that are leading the way to promote sustainability and environmental education. Eligible applicants must demonstrate significant progress towards the following Pillars.

1. Reducing environmental impact and costs
2. Improving the health and wellness of schools, students, and staff
3. Providing effective environmental and sustainability education, incorporating STEM, civic skills, and green career pathways

Application for the Green Ribbon Schools Award

The Louisiana Department of Education nominates up to five candidates for this national recognition program based on an application process. Interested applicants are encouraged to review the information on this page to gain insights into the awards process and explore how their school communities can engage with the Green Ribbon School Program. All [application materials](#) must be submitted by **5 p.m. on December 15**.

Who can apply?

Public and nonpublic early childhood centers, elementary, middle, and high schools, school systems, and higher education institutions are encouraged to apply. It is recommended that a team be assembled to complete the application. Please see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document for more details on who should compose the team.

What is the selection process?

Interested applicants must complete and submit the [application](#) by **December 15**. A state committee scores the completed application. The LDOE may nominate up to five applicants to send forward to the US-ED GRS for final selection. US-ED GRS chooses national award recipients from this group. To view samples of past national winners, please visit the [US-ED GRS Awards](#) website.

How are Green Ribbon Schools recognized?

State finalists will be recognized by the LDOE. US-ED GRS invites national award recipients to a ceremony in Washington DC.

What if my school or system does not meet all of the requirements?

The Green Ribbon Schools program is ambitious. Interested applicants should apply if there is documentation to show significant progress toward all three Pillars of the program.

For more information, please view the [Louisiana Green Ribbon Schools Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) document or email environmentaleducation@la.gov.