

## **Greenbacks for Green Schools: A Compilation of California Funding Sources** **Prepared by Green Schools Initiative**

Green Schools Initiative has put this list of resources together as a starting place for parents, teachers, and school administrators who are interested in finding ways to cover the costs of greening their schools. The list includes a variety of types of funding, including discounts, grants, free items, and technical assistance from a number of sources, state of California, cities and counties, corporations and non-profit organizations.

The list is structured around the Green Schools Initiative's four pillars: Strive to be Toxics Free; Use Resources Sustainably; Create a Green and Healthy Space; and Teach, Learn, Engage. We recognize that this list is not exhaustive and plan to update it. We hope you find this list helpful, and please email us at [info@greenschools.net](mailto:info@greenschools.net) if you find errors or other sources in which you think other people may be interested.

### **Pillar 1: Strive to be Toxic Free**

#### **Green Cleaning/ Toxic use reduction**

❖ Quick and Easy Guide to Green Cleaning in Schools

[www.healthyschoolscampaign.org/campaign/green\\_clean\\_guide/](http://www.healthyschoolscampaign.org/campaign/green_clean_guide/)

A free guide for decreasing toxics at school  
Healthy Schools Campaign, based in Illinois, has published a multimedia how-to guide to help schools adopt cleaning programs that encourage the use of green products, equipment and practices in schools. It also includes a purchasing guide that lists products that are consistent with HSC Green Clean recommendations .

Eligible: Public/Private schools

Funding source: private non-profit

❖ State Contracts

[www.grainger.com/Grainger/static.jsp?page=fos\\_cacontract.html](http://www.grainger.com/Grainger/static.jsp?page=fos_cacontract.html)

The State of California contracts with a variety of companies to provide different supplies. Through this contract, schools are eligible to receive discounted supplies as part of a state agency. Grainger has a contract with the state for janitorial/maintenance supplies that has already been bid, so it isn't necessary to get other bids. Participating schools can receive 10-20% off supplies through this contract.

Eligible: Public schools

Funding source: discounted janitorial supplies

Contact: Grainger's California Government Center of Excellence 800-700-6955

#### **Green Building**

❖ Green Capital Program for Green Schools

[www.emsi-green.com/content/services.html](http://www.emsi-green.com/content/services.html)

To address the need for incremental funds to cover the added costs of designing and constructing green schools, EMSI has developed the Green Capital for Green Schools (GreenCap) program. Through GreenCap, EMSI offers a variety of financing mechanisms to cover the incremental capital cost required to design and build a green, high performance school. Together with its financial institution partners, EMSI helps school districts access:

- Public and private grants
- Equipment leases
- Build-own-operate financing
- Loans (including tax-exempt loans)
- Energy savings performance contracts

Eligible: Public schools

Funding source: EMSI, a private consulting firm

Contact: 202-291-3102 or [alal@emsi-green.com](mailto:alal@emsi-green.com)

#### ❖ Proposition 1D

Prop 1D provides \$100 million dollars to fund the design and construction of energy efficient, healthy school facilities for the California public school system. The newly allotted money will be distributed to schools based on how many green design features they choose to include in their design.

More information will be available in January 2007 on the State Allocation Board's website: [www.opsc.dgs.ca.gov/SAB/Default.htm](http://www.opsc.dgs.ca.gov/SAB/Default.htm).

#### ❖ Williams Case Settlement: Emergency Repair Program

[www.cde.ca.gov/eo/ce/wc/index.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/ce/wc/index.asp)

A class action lawsuit was brought against the State of California in 2000 arguing that the Department of Education failed to provide public school students with equal access to instructional materials, safe and decent school facilities, and qualified teachers. The state settled the case in 2004. As part of the settlement, \$800 million was allocated to a school facilities emergency repair program. Facilities eligible for this program are those which are unusable for their current purpose and may pose a threat to the health and safety of the school population.

Regulations for buildings are still under development and will be on the OPSC's website January 1, 2007.

Eligible: Public schools ranked in the deciles 1 to 3 of the Academic Performance Index (API) based on the 2003 base API. Additionally, these schools must have been built before 2000.

Funding source: State of California, Department of Education

Contact: [http://www.opsc.dgs.ca.gov/SABPrograms/ERP\\_Main.htm](http://www.opsc.dgs.ca.gov/SABPrograms/ERP_Main.htm)

## **Pillar 2: Use Resources Sustainably**

### **Energy**

#### ❖ School Resources Program

[www.pge.com/biz/rebates/schools/index.html](http://www.pge.com/biz/rebates/schools/index.html)

The School Resources Program (SRP) is an energy efficiency program developed to help schools redirect utility cost savings back into educational resources, and to improve the learning environment. SRP focuses on facility improvements and operation/maintenance strategies that improve lighting quality, climate control, indoor environmental quality, and occupant control of energy systems.

Energy efficiency is a high-value cost-reduction strategy for schools. The SRP utilizes PG&E Resource Conservation Managers to assist schools with:

- Energy auditing/analysis
- Technology selection
- Financing
- Construction planning
- Operations and maintenance improvements
- Staff development
- Student curricula

There are no costs for the services provided. The program applies to both new construction and retrofit opportunities. SRP collaborates with the California Energy Commission, Collaborative for High Performance Schools, professional associations, industry, and energy research centers to support customers in the education sector.

Eligible: Public and private schools

Funding source: PG&E

#### ❖ Solar Schools Program (2006)

[www.need.org/pgesolarschools](http://www.need.org/pgesolarschools)

Up to \$1.7 million in grants will be given to support school for:

- Installation of \$20,000 solar generation systems for educational use (managed through Foundation for Environmental Education [www.the-environment.org](http://www.the-environment.org))
- Solar-based training curriculum (managed through NEED Project [www.need.org/pgesolarschools](http://www.need.org/pgesolarschools))
- Bright Ideas Grants (managed through NEED Project [www.need.org/pgesolarschools](http://www.need.org/pgesolarschools))

Eligible: PG&E service area, public schools

Funding source: PG&E

❖ Bright Schools Program

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/brightschools/index.html>

The Bright Schools Program can help with renovation and maintenance investments. With an evaluation of maintenance plans or an energy audit of facilities, the program can identify energy-related projects that should be implemented immediately as part of a comprehensive Bright Schools energy package. School organizations planning major renovations can also benefit from technical assistance services during the planning and design processes. For existing schools, the Bright Schools Program can:

- Conduct energy audits and feasibility studies
- Review existing proposals and designs
- Develop equipment performance specifications
- Assist with contractor selection
- Review equipment bid specifications
- Review commissioning plans

The Energy Commission has contracted with experienced engineering and architectural consultants who provide the technical assistance; and provide up to \$20,000 of their consultants' cost.

Eligible: Public and Private K-12 schools

Funding Source: State of California, Energy Commission

Contact: Elizabeth Shirakh 916-654-4089 [eshirakh@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:eshirakh@energy.state.ca.us)

❖ Low-interest Loans for energy efficiency and energy generation projects

[www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/efficiency\\_pon.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/efficiency_pon.html)

The California Energy Commission has \$40 million in loan funds for installing energy cost saving projects. A fixed interest rate of 4.5% applies for the term of the loan, and is reduced to 4.1% if projects are completed within 12 months of being awarded a loan and meets all requirements specified in the loan application. The maximum loan amount is \$3 million.

Eligible: Public schools only

Funding source: State of California, Energy Commission

❖ Alliance to Save Energy: Green Schools Program

[www.ase.org/section/program/greenschl/](http://www.ase.org/section/program/greenschl/)

The Alliance's Green Schools Program engages students in creating energy-saving activities in their schools, using hands-on, real-world projects. Through basic changes in the operations, maintenance, and individual behavior, Green Schools has achieved reductions in energy use of 5 to 15 percent among participating schools. In addition, Green Schools encourages students to apply the lessons of energy-efficiency message in their homes and communities.

Eligible: Districts organized with 5-15 schools to participate

Funding source: Public and private donors through a Non-profit  
Contact: [greenschools@ase.org](mailto:greenschools@ase.org)

❖ Energy Education, Inc.  
[www.energyeducation.com/index.html](http://www.energyeducation.com/index.html)

Energy Education, Inc. develops and implements customized energy conservation programs that enable educational institutions to preserve energy dollars for educational opportunities and resources. These programs provide a no-risk opportunity for achieving substantial savings with no capital expenditure. Energy Education, Inc. is the only people-based energy management company with a proven 20-year record of helping clients save substantial energy dollars through sound energy management.

Eligible: Public and Private schools

Funding source: Cost savings through energy conservation

Contact: Jan Noel-Smith at 940.767.1500 ext. 137, or e-mail [info@energyeducation.com](mailto:info@energyeducation.com)

### **Recycled Products**

❖ State Contracts  
[www.green.ca.gov/EPP/Sources/Products.htm](http://www.green.ca.gov/EPP/Sources/Products.htm)

The state has contracts with a variety of vendors for recycled products. For office products, the state works with Office Depot and receives discounts on supplies.

Schools are required to have a DGS billing code prior to using this contract. DGS billing codes may be obtained by contacting the DGS Billing Code contact and providing the following: Local Government Agency Name, contact name, telephone number, mailing address, facsimile number and e-mail address. Email the required information to the following contacts:

- [Marilyn.ebert@dgs.ca.gov](mailto:Marilyn.ebert@dgs.ca.gov) and
- [Wilson.lee@dgs.ca.gov](mailto:Wilson.lee@dgs.ca.gov)

The DGS will bill each local agency an administrative fee for use of this statewide contract.

Eligible: Public K-12 schools

Funding source: Discounted office supplies

❖ Recycledproducts.org  
[www.recycledproducts.org](http://www.recycledproducts.org)

Recycledproduct.org is a consumer coop for buying recycled goods. As a coop, it is able to use its large membership to receive discounts on bulk purchases and then passes that savings to the customer. Anyone is eligible, a school needs to register as a member, which is free, in order to buy.

Eligible: Public and private schools

Funding source: Discounted recycled goods

❖ TheGreenOffice.com  
[www.thegreenoffice.com](http://www.thegreenoffice.com)

TheGreenOffice.com is a company designed to promote sustainability in the workplace. Our products are labeled and ranked by greenness, taking the research out of responsible shopping. The website provides a range of tools, services, tips and information to make office greening easy and cost-effective. Customers enjoy great low prices, free Climate Conscious shipping over \$49, and next day delivery on orders placed before 3:00 p.m.

Eligible: Public and private schools

Funding source: Discounted green office supplies

❖ Stopwaste.org mini-grants  
[www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp?page=502](http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp?page=502)

The minimum award amount is \$1,000 and the maximum is \$5,000.

The Mini-Grants program is designed to provide small amounts of money, within a brief period of time, for a specific and limited purpose. The proposed project must be in the area of source reduction, reuse, recycling and market development. Funds may also be requested for educational programs that promote source reduction, reuse, recycling and buy recycled.

StopWaste.Org is looking for innovative projects which will increase individual and community involvement in source reduction efforts, decrease the amount of waste generated and sent to the County's landfills, and encourage the development, marketing and use of recycled products.

StopWaste.Org has allocated a total of \$25,000 in fiscal year 2006/2007 for the Mini-grant Program. Applications will be accepted and evaluated on a "first come-first served basis" throughout the year until the full amount allocated has been disbursed.

Eligible: Public and private schools in Alameda county

Funding source: Alameda County

Contact: Mark Cullors (510) 614-1699 [mcullors@stopwaste.org](mailto:mcullors@stopwaste.org)

❖ City/County Recycling programs

Many cities and counties offer assistance with recycling programs in the schools. This assistance often includes educational materials, recycling containers, and teacher training. Some Bay Area resources:

- Alameda county: [www.stopwaste.org](http://www.stopwaste.org)
- San Francisco city/county:  
[www.sfenvironment.com/aboutus/school/recycle/at\\_school.htm](http://www.sfenvironment.com/aboutus/school/recycle/at_school.htm) or 415-355-3742
- Palo Alto: [www.sfenvironment.com/aboutus/school/recycle/at\\_school.htm](http://www.sfenvironment.com/aboutus/school/recycle/at_school.htm)
- San Mateo county: [www.recycleworks.org/schools/index.html](http://www.recycleworks.org/schools/index.html)

- Contra Costa county: [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/)  
Lorna Thomson, at (925) 335-1231 or [lthom@cd.cccounty.us](mailto:lthom@cd.cccounty.us).

### **Pillar 3: Create A Green, Healthy Space**

#### **School lunches and breakfasts**

##### ❖ Fresh Start Program

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/cfsp.asp>

A reimbursement of ten cents (\$0.10) per breakfast meal can be applied for to supplement the meal with fresh fruit or vegetables. \$18.2mm available, California deemed this so important that there is no end date.

Participating schools may qualify for additional financial assistance through School Breakfast Program Start-up and Expansion Grants. The annual Budget Act allocates approximately a million dollars in funding for these grants, which can provide up to \$15,000 per site to public schools and charter schools. The grant funds offset the costs of starting or implementing activities designed to increase participation in the SBP. Schools may request funds in their grant application for one-time allowable costs necessary to store, prepare, and serve fresh fruits and vegetables under the CFSP.

The 2006-07 application announcement should be available between November 2006 and February 2007.

Eligible: Public school districts and charter schools

Funding source: State of California

Contact: Rae Dalimonte, Program Analyst, at (916) 445-6775 or [rdalimon@cde.ca.gov](mailto:rdalimon@cde.ca.gov)

#### **Green, Healthy Space**

##### ❖ Youth Garden Grants Program

[www.kidsgardening.com/YGG.asp](http://www.kidsgardening.com/YGG.asp)

Applicants must plan to garden in 2007 with at least 15 children between the ages of three and 18 years. Previous Youth Garden Grant winners who wish to reapply must wait one year and have significantly expanded their garden programs. Applications must be postmarked by November 1, 2006.

- A \$250 Gift Card from The Home Depot
- An activity package consisting of 3 NGA publications: Steps to a Bountiful Kids' Garden, Schoolyard Mosaics, and GrowLab: Activities for Growing Minds.
- A "2007 Youth Garden Grant Winner" sign to post in the garden
- 12 months of NGA Supporter benefits (includes online garden Q&A service, online gardening and botany courses, and a 10% discount at our Gardening with Kids store)

Eligible: Public/private schools

Funding source: National Gardening Association

##### ❖ School Garden Funds

[www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/)

California is offering grants of \$2500 and up to \$5000 (for schools with more than 1000 students) for school garden equipment, supplies and professional development to be expended over three years.

The local educational agency (LEA), i.e. district/county department of education/state board of charter schools must apply on each schools behalf. Each LEA may only apply ONE TIME!!! But no limit exists for the number of school sites the LEA may apply for. LEAs must get organized now in order to apply for this funding, as applications will be accepted on a first come first serve basis, through February 2007. Detailed information and the application will be available in the funding section of the California Department of Education's website.

Eligible: Public schools, charter schools

Funding source: State of California

❖ Sacramento Tree Foundation

[www.sactree.com](http://www.sactree.com)

Trees are donated to school for planting and care by the school community. Teachers, PTA groups, and Maintenance personnel often take the lead in arranging a tree planting event and assure that the required follow up is given to the trees. And children learn how and why to plant a tree and then get their hands dirty improving their school. After the planting the children guard their trees and watch them grow, providing long term learning for the students and teachers!

Eligible: Public and private schools in Sacramento County

Funding source: Sacramento Municipal Utility District and Sacramento Tree Foundation

#### **Pillar 4: Teach, Learn, Engage**

##### **Environmental Education**

❖ Whale Tail Grant Program

[www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/plate/plgrant.html](http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/plate/plgrant.html)

Up to \$50,000, programs to teach youth to value and take action to improve health of state's marine and coastal resources.

Eligible: Private/public schools

Funding source: California Coastal Commission

❖ Nature of Learning Programs:

[www.fws.gov/refuges/education/natureoflearning](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/education/natureoflearning)

\$1000-\$5000 for start up costs

A community-based conservation education initiative using National Wildlife Refuges as outdoor classrooms and enhances natural resource stewardship in the community.

Eligible: Private and public schools

Funding source: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation



❖ Captain Planet Foundation

[www.captainplanetfdn.org/mission\\_statement.html](http://www.captainplanetfdn.org/mission_statement.html)

Funding for teachers of \$250-\$2500 for programs which:

- Promote understanding of environmental issues
- Focus on hands-on involvement
- Involve children and young adults 6-18 (elementary through high school)
- Promote interaction and cooperation within the group
- Help young people develop planning and problem solving skills
- Include adult supervision
- Commit to follow-up communication with the Foundation (specific requirements are explained once the grant has been awarded)

Will also fund school organic gardens up to \$500

Eligible: Public and private schools

Funding source: Non-profit foundation

Contact: Taryn Murphy [tarynm@captainplanetfdn.org](mailto:tarynm@captainplanetfdn.org)

❖ Toyota Tapestry Grants

[www.nsta.org/programs/tapestry/index.htm](http://www.nsta.org/programs/tapestry/index.htm)

Up to \$10,000

Toyota TAPESTRY grants are given to K-12 teachers of science with a project that demonstrates creativity, involves risk-taking, possesses a visionary quality, and models a novel way of presenting science. Proposed projects should promote exciting and innovative activities to motivate students in science.

Eligible: Public and private schools

Funding source: Toyota Corporation and NSTA

Application deadline: January 18, 2007

❖ Rising Sun Energy Center

[www.risingsunenergy.org/solar\\_education\\_workshop.htm](http://www.risingsunenergy.org/solar_education_workshop.htm)

In 2006-2007 Rising Sun Energy Center will host a series of workshops on Solar Energy and Energy Efficiency. Each self-contained workshop will focus on either Solar Electricity or Solar Thermal, providing educators with the skills and tools necessary to lead renewable energy projects for students in grades 4-12. Teachers will receive a \$150 stipend, materials, curriculum, and follow-up support to teach these important topics.

Eligible: Public/private school teachers

Funding source: Non-profit

Contact: Oren Sofer at (510) 665-1501 x13; [sofer@risingsunenergy.org](mailto:sofer@risingsunenergy.org)

❖ BP A+ for Energy Program  
[www.aplusforenergy.org/California/](http://www.aplusforenergy.org/California/)

\$5000 or \$10,000 grants

BP will award up to \$1.5 million in grants to K-12 California teachers for innovative classroom, after- school, extra-curricular, or summer activities focused on energy and/or energy conservation. Grants of \$5,000 or \$10,000 will be awarded directly to teachers, reflecting the budget request submitted with the application. \*2007 application not yet posted.

Eligible: Public and private schools

Funding source: BP Corporation

### **Links to other sources with funding opportunities**

Monetary Resources for K-12 Sustainable School and Public Building Construction in California: [www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/sustainability/incentives.htm](http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/sustainability/incentives.htm)

This document provides an extensive list of public and private entities that have programs which schools can tap for resources to become greener. The document is a few years old, but many of the programs are still available. The document was put together by the California Department of General Services.

California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB)

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Schools/Funding/default.htm>

CIWMB is an agency of the California government that provides information on its website about a variety of funding sources for schools who working to green themselves. This page provides funding areas including: energy, environmental education, garden and landscape, among others.

California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC)

[http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader\\$61](http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader$61)

CREEC is a non-governmental organization that works as a network to provide the best environmental education resources information in California. In addition to funding sources, the organization has an online searchable resource directory that includes over 1,000 environmental education providers and over 2,000 programs/resources available to educators in California.

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