

ESSA and EE in NC

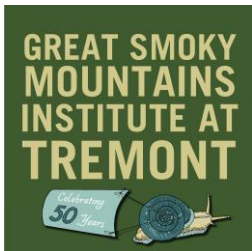


Explaining how the Every Student Succeeds Act can be used to fund environmental education in North Carolina

Building the Team



Feed the Bin
School Recycling Program



The Process

Writing Team Draft 1

Revisions

Round 2 Feedback

Revisions

Round 3 Feedback

Final draft

Posted to DPI's website!

Environmental Education

PART OF A WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION FOR ESSA FUNDING

WHY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION?

More than ever, children and adults need to know how ecological systems work and why they matter. The health of the environment is inseparable from humans' well-being and economic prosperity. People require knowledge, tools and sensitivity to successfully address and solve environmental problems in their daily lives.

Environmental education offers a powerful approach to teaching. It includes, but is not limited to, place-based learning, field experiences, service learning, and other hands-on and authentic educational experiences that support STEM and other grade level subjects. Many environmental education programs and lesson plans are already correlated to our state's standard course of study and are easy to integrate into your existing lessons and activities.



BACKED BY RESEARCH:

Mounting research demonstrates that environmental education:

- Improves academic performance across content areas¹
- Enhances critical thinking skills²
- Develops personal growth and life-building skills including confidence, autonomy, and leadership³
- Increases civic engagement and positive environmental behaviors⁴
- Reduces discipline and classroom management problems⁵
- Increases engagement and enthusiasm for learning⁶

Learn more about Stanford University's analysis of 119 studies that concluded "environmental knowledge is just the tip of the iceberg" <https://naaee.org/eepr/research/eeworks/student-outcomes>

ELIGIBILITY FOR ESSA FUNDING

From the federal level, funding from the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) can be used to introduce or expand environmental education in your school district as part of your efforts to provide a well-rounded education. As an eligible activity under ESSA, environmental education can be integrated across the

Getting The Word Out



The screenshot shows the website for the Federal Program Monitoring and Support. At the top, it identifies the organization as the Public Schools of North Carolina, State Board of Education, and Department of Public Instruction. The main header is a red banner with the text "FEDERAL PROGRAM MONITORING AND SUPPORT". Below this is a navigation bar with links for NCLB, Federal Programs, SES, Get Updates, and Quick Links, along with a Google search bar. A "RESOURCES" section is highlighted with a dotted line and contains a note about file formats and two links: "Arts and Title I Funds (pdf, 266kb)" and "Environmental Science using ESSA Funding (pdf, 685kb)". A printer-friendly version link is also present. The footer contains links for DPI Home, About DPI, State of NC, NC OpenBudget, Legal Notices, and Contact Us.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA | State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

FEDERAL PROGRAM MONITORING AND SUPPORT

NCLB FEDERAL PROGRAMS SES GET UPDATES QUICK LINKS

RESOURCES

NOTE :: Various file formats are used on this page that may require download. **If larger than 1mb**, it will take longer to download. For instructions or more information, please visit our [download page](#).

Arts and Title I Funds
(pdf, 266kb)

Environmental Science using ESSA Funding
(pdf, 685kb)

> Printer Friendly Version

DPI HOME ABOUT DPI STATE OF NC NC OPENBUDGET LEGAL NOTICES CONTACT US



Next Steps:

- Opportunities to “endorse” the document
 - Goal: all 100 counties
- Delivering a letter to superintendents
- Centers, organizations, and teachers using this as a tool for local advocacy
- Potential gateway for future projects?

www.eenc.org/ESSAandEE

Lauren Pyle
eencexecdirector@gmail.com



Environmental education is supported by the Every Student Succeeds Act, which makes EE experiences eligible for ESSA funding and support. As an environmental educator or a formal K-12 educator, this can be an incredible resource for getting children involved and engaged in environmental education!

Learn more about the Every Student Succeeds Act and the implications for EE in this handy [printable document](#).

The following organizations have signed on in support of the document linked above:

- Environmental Educators of North Carolina
- North Carolina Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs
- North Carolina Association of Environmental Education Centers
- North Carolina Project WET
- North Carolina Project WILD
- North Carolina Project Learning Tree
- Project OWL