



ABOUT

The U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS) recognition award honors schools, districts, and Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) that are exemplary across three pillars:

1. Reducing environmental impact and costs
2. Improving the health and wellness of students and staff
3. Providing effective environmental and sustainability education that teaches many disciplines and incorporates STEM, civic skills, and green career pathways.

The recognition award is part of a larger U.S. Department of Education (ED) effort to identify and communicate practices that result in improved student engagement, academic achievement, graduation rates, and workforce preparedness. The award also reinforces federal efforts to increase energy independence and economic security.

HOW IT WORKS

Schools, districts, colleges, and universities apply to their State Education Agencies

Schools, districts, colleges, and universities do not apply directly to the Department of Education, but rather to their individual state education authorities (or equivalent DoDEA or BIE jurisdictions). Candidates should contact their state departments of education or higher education authorities for information on selection in their state.

States may nominate up to five PK-12 schools and districts, as well as a single IHE

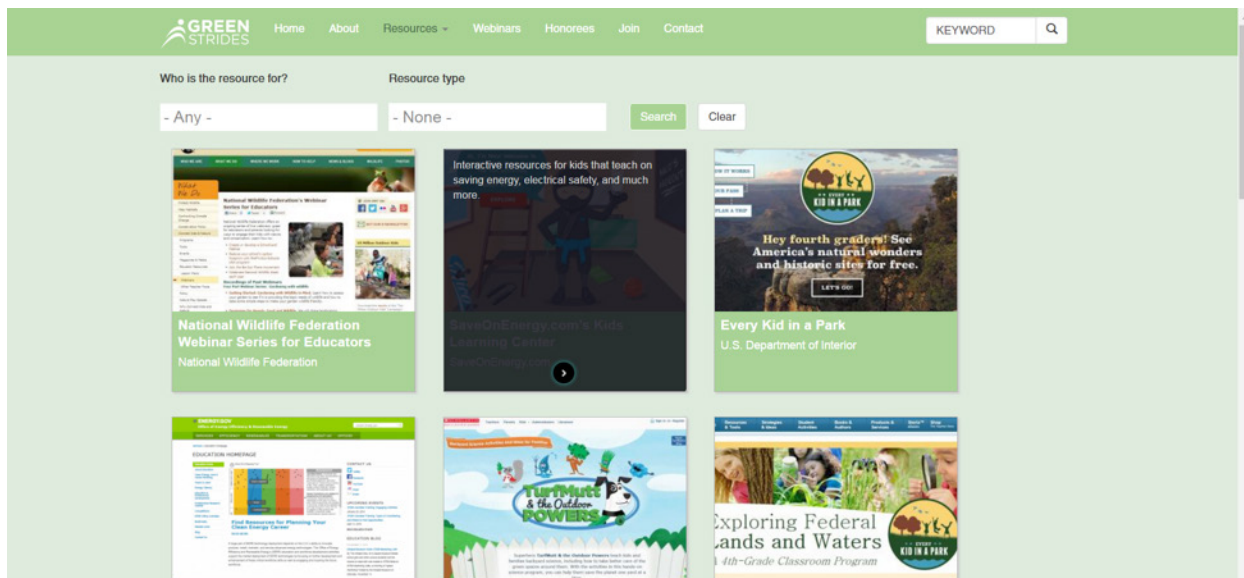
Each state is permitted up to five PreK-12 school or district nominations. To nominate more than two schools or districts, at least one of the nominees must serve at least 40 percent of students from a disadvantaged background. No more than one of the five PreK-12 nominees may be a private school.

Each state may also nominate one IHE. State Selection Committees are encouraged to make an appropriate effort to consider diverse types of institutions and, accordingly, to document how the nominees' sustainability work has reduced college costs, increased completion rates, led to higher rates of employment, and ensured robust civic skills among graduates.

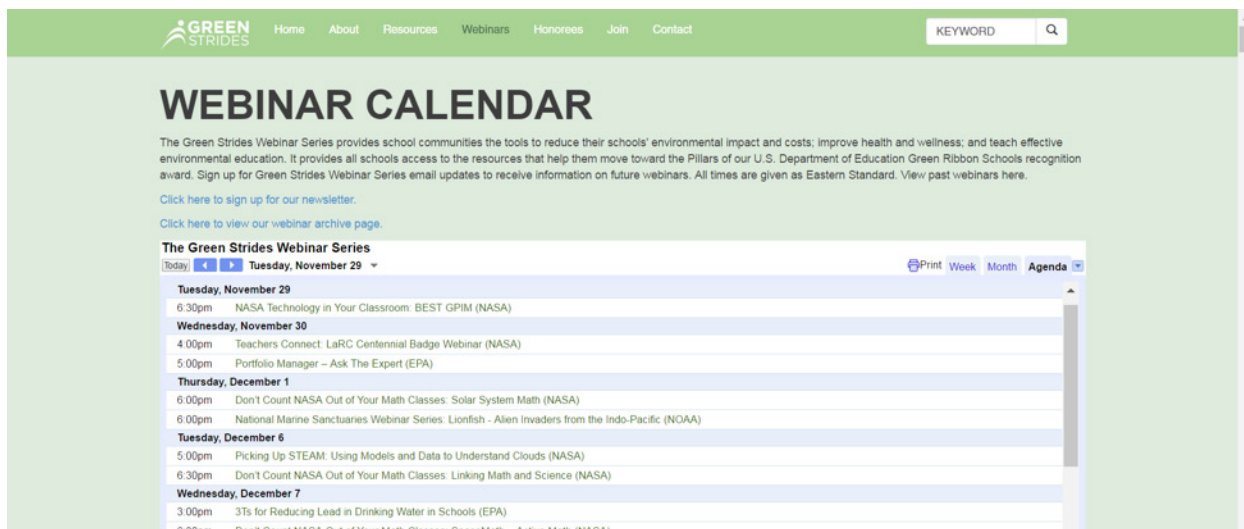
US Department of Education selects and announces honorees

ED announces honorees annually on Earth Day, April 22nd. All honorees are invited to attend a national ceremony in the summer to receive formal recognition.

RESOURCES: GREEN STRIDES



The Green Strides portal is a one-stop shop for resources, webinars, case studies, and best practices for schools and advocates. Launched in collaboration with the Center for Green Schools at USGBC, the Green Strides portal connects school communities with free, publicly available resources from a variety of sources that recognition award honorees have used effectively in their pursuit of the award.



The Green Strides Webinar Series provides school communities with tools for success across the three pillars. The full schedule is posted and regularly updated on Green Strides.

To access Green Strides, visit
www.greenstrides.org