Date: January 22, 2024

To: Local Education Agency Leads, Office of the Secretary of Higher Education

Route To: Assistant Superintendents, Principals, Teachers, Curriculum Supervisors, New Jersey Institutes of

Higher Education

From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner

Division of Teaching and Learning Services

Deadline: Application due Tuesday, February 13, 2024, by 4:00 p.m.

Notice of Grant Opportunity: Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards through Climate Change Learning Collaboratives

In the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 State budget, Governor Phil Murphy allocated \$4.5 million to support climate change education in New Jersey schools. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is releasing a grant opportunity to support the work of local education agencies (LEAs) through grants to New Jersey institutes of higher education (IHEs).

Climate Change Learning Collaboratives at New Jersey Institutes of Higher Education

The Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) through Climate Change Learning Collaboratives (CCLCs) grant opportunity aims to create regional (northern, central, southern) CCLCs at a minimum of three, but up to six, New Jersey IHEs to support neighboring LEAs in their implementation of climate change education. Institute of higher education applicants will be responsible for identifying at least one community-based organization that is currently engaged in place-based environmental education in their region to serve as a partner.

The focus of this competitive grant opportunity is to deepen understanding and implementation of the NJSLS supporting Climate Change Education. The competitively funded CCLCs are anticipated to increase the knowledge and skillset of New Jersey's educators related to the NJSLS supporting Climate Change Education by:

- Providing professional development and technical assistance, including in support of experiential learning opportunities.
- Guiding educators in developing and identifying high quality instructional materials that are locally focused and culturally responsive.
- Fostering the opportunity for educators to collaborate and innovate with fellow educators at neighboring LEAs.

Application Availability and Deadlines

The Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards through Climate Change Learning Collaboratives Notice of Grant Opportunity (NGO) document is now available on the NJDOE's Office of Grants Management webpage. Completed applications are due in the Electronic Web-Enabled Grant (EWEG) online application system by **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2024**.

Technical Assistance Session

The technical assistance session for interested IHEs is scheduled for **Thursday**, **January 25**, **2024**, **from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.** Interested IHEs should register <u>here</u> to attend.

Contact Information

Any questions regarding this NGO can be routed to <u>climateeducation@doe.nj.gov</u>. For questions regarding the EWEG online application system, please contact <u>eweghelp@doe.nj.gov</u>.

c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group