



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: June 5, 2024
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Assistant Superintendents, Principals, Teachers, Curriculum Supervisors
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services

Establishment of Regional Climate Change Learning Collaboratives

The New Jersey Department of Education has established regional [Climate Change Learning Collaboratives](#) (CCLCs) at four New Jersey institutions of higher education (IHEs) through the *Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards through Climate Change Learning Collaboratives* Notice of Grant Opportunity. Each CCLC is comprised of an interdisciplinary project team from the IHE and one or more community-based nonprofit organization partner(s).

The CCLCs will provide local education agencies (LEAs) with **free** professional development, technical assistance, and networking opportunities to aid in their implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards supporting Climate Change Education across all nine content areas. Local education agencies are encouraged to seek guidance and support for their climate change education initiatives from their regional CCLC and to visit their CCLC's website for information on upcoming events (**see table on next page for each CCLC's information**).

Services Provided by the Regional Climate Change Learning Collaboratives

Each CCLC will provide LEAs with the following services, **free of charge**, from June 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025:

- **Professional development** (stipends offered to educators) and **technical assistance** covering:
 - Climate change subject knowledge.
 - Identifying, developing, and implementing interdisciplinary, project-based unit plans.
 - Creating and identifying locally focused experiential learning opportunities for students.
 - Relevant technology and teaching tools.
 - Self-assessment tools and evaluation strategies.
 - Identifying and applying for external grants and certifications.
 - Establishing green teams.
 - Developing sustainability plans.
- **Networking and collaborative opportunities**, including:
 - Dedicated time at events for innovating with fellow educators at neighboring LEAs.
 - An email listserv or cloud-based collaboration site for virtual networking and resource sharing.
 - A CCLC culminating conference showcasing the climate change education initiatives of LEAs.

Contact Information

For questions, please contact the Climate Change Education Unit at climateeducation@doe.nj.gov.

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



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New Jersey Department of Education Regional Climate Change Learning Collaboratives

Institute of Higher Education	Region	Counties Serving	Community-Based Nonprofit Organization Partner(s)	Email Address and Website
Ramapo College of New Jersey	Northern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bergen • Essex • Hudson • Morris • Passaic • Sussex • Warren 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Swamp Watershed Association • Meadowlands Environment Center • The New Jersey School of Conservation 	Email: ClimateCollaborative@ramapo.edu Website: Ramapo Climate Change Learning Collaborative
Rutgers University - New Brunswick	Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunterdon • Middlesex • Somerset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Jersey Audubon 	Email: ClimateChangeEducation@docs.rutgers.edu Website: Rutgers Climate Change Learning Collaborative
Monmouth University	Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercer • Monmouth • Union 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monmouth Conservation Foundation • New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium 	Email: MUClimateEducation@monmouth.edu Website: Monmouth Climate Change Learning Collaborative
Stockton University	Southern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic • Burlington • Camden • Cape May • Cumberland • Gloucester • Ocean • Salem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center for Aquatic Sciences • New Jersey Audubon • Save Barnegat Bay • Sustainable Jersey • The Wetlands Institute 	Email: ClimateLearning@stockton.edu Website: Stockton Climate Change Learning Collaborative