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Office of Facilities Planning

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



DATE: January 20, 2012

TO: All Public and Private Schools

RE: NYS Green Ribbon Schools Application Process Now Started

New York State is participating in the U. S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools program during this pilot year. Public and private schools are invited to apply to the New York State Education Department Office of Facilities Planning for this national recognition starting on January 20, 2012.

The Green Ribbon Schools program recognizes schools that save energy, reduce costs, feature environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protect health, foster wellness, and offer environmental education to boost academic achievement and community engagement. The Green Ribbon Schools recognition award will be given to schools that have achieved or are making demonstrable progress toward:

- 1) having a net zero environmental impact;
- 2) improving the health and performance of students and staff; and
- 3) ensuring the environmental and sustainability literacy of all graduates.

Public and private schools in New York State can now make their application for nomination to the New York State Education Department's Office of Facilities Planning. New York State Green Ribbon application materials and submission details are located on the Office of Facilities Planning web site at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/facplan/GreenRibbonSchools.html>.

The NYS Green Ribbon Schools Application **must be submitted online on or before February 24, 2012.**

Questions regarding the New York State Green Ribbon program should be directed to nysgreenrib@mail.nysed.gov.