



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The **New Jersey Department of Education** (NJDOE) supports schools, educators, and districts to ensure all of New Jersey's students have equitable access to high-quality education and achieve academic excellence. The NJDOE envisions becoming a model organization that strengthens teaching, leading, and learning in order to increase educational equity for all students.

Agency Resilience Program in Action

By supporting the integration of climate change education topics in all grades and subjects, the NJDOE aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills to develop innovative solutions to local, regional, national, and global climate-related risks, hazards, and vulnerabilities. The grant programs, technical assistance, and resources developed by the NJDOE and its partners serve as models for supporting the next generation of climate leaders. The NJDOE also requires that all new schools incorporate the United States Green Building Council's "LEED for Schools" design standards to achieve maximum energy efficiency. Additionally, the Department's school facilities project grants placed the highest priority on repair or replacement of HVAC systems in school facility project grants.

In 2020, New Jersey became the first state in the nation to incorporate K-12 climate change education across content areas in its state academic standards.



Provided grants to school districts and institutions of higher education to advance climate change education. Districts used these **grants to develop climate change learning resources** and student-led community resilience projects; colleges and universities created Climate Change Learning Collaboratives to provide training to teachers on how to infuse climate change into the curriculum.



Develops **guidance for New Jersey schools and educators** on best practices in climate change education and locally focused, student-led climate change solutions.



Actively engages with other NJ agencies in developing guidance on the needs and best practices in **preparing students for emerging green and blue economy careers**.



In conjunction with the Schools Development Authority, made **\$350 million available to school districts to support capital needs**, including HVAC repairs.





Partnerships & Interagency Efforts

The NJDOE has partnered with other organizations in the state to align efforts supporting the expansion of climate change education-related learning opportunities for students and teachers. At the national level, the agency collaborates with other states, universities, and agencies to develop a framework for climate change education curricula and expand the availability of high-quality climate change education resources.

