



Schools Toolkit

Concerned About Your School's Impact on the Environment?

Join many school district officials, teachers, and students to stop global warming and save money by taking cost-saving actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Schools Toolkit is a one-stop-shop to help school district officials, teachers, and students save money and protect the climate.

Tools in the Schools Toolkit Cost Saving Actions

Learn about no/low-cost actions school district officials, teachers, and students can take to

save money in areas of energy and water efficiency, transportation, purchasing, building, recycling and green energy.

Financial Resources

Discover financial resources for your school on CoolCalifornia.org. Many utilities and other organizations offer incentives like rebates, grants, and low interest loans to implement climate-friendly actions.

Take Control: Carbon Footprint Calculators

Use different tools to calculate the amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions produced by your school. Access calculators and modeling tools to estimate

GHG emission reductions from your actions, district actions and student actions.

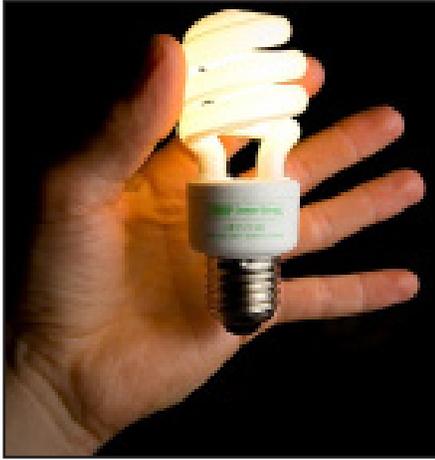
Climate Curriculum & Getting Kids Involved

Learn how to teach students about climate change and get them involved in the classroom. Help students learn what changes they can make to protect the environment.

Third-Party Recognition Programs

Find out about a few programs designed to evaluate and rate the energy efficiency and environmental performance of schools.

Visit CoolCalifornia.org to get started with the Schools Toolkit. For more information, contact Heather Choi at 916.322.3893 or hchoi@arb.ca.gov.



Ways to Save Energy & Money at School

How Does Saving Energy Save Money?

Energy usage is the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in California. Schools can reduce annual energy expenses by about 20% through implementation of simple energy efficiency actions.

Steps to Save Energy

For District Officials

- Replace standard incandescent light bulbs with low-watt compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Install programmable thermostats to help minimize operating hours of the heating and cooling systems in low-occupancy areas, like the cafeteria.
- Install occupancy sensors that will automatically turn off the lights when no one is in the room.
- Clean furnace filters regularly.



A clean filter maximizes your furnace's efficiency and longevity--- and minimizes your energy bills.

For Teachers

- Make duplexing (double-side printing) the default mode for copiers and printers.
- Hang a "Save Energy" sign near your classroom light switches. It will remind students to turn off the lights when they are not in use.
- Change the thermostat settings in rooms to 78 during warmer months and 68 during cooler months. Doing so will lower the heating and air conditioning use.
- Encourage everyone to keep doors and windows closed when heating or air conditioning is running.



For Students

- Turn off unneeded lights and use natural daylighting when possible.
- Ask teachers and school district staff to plug all equipment into surge protectors and turn them off when not in use.
- Set your computer and monitor to "sleep" mode even when inactive for a few minutes. Screen savers don't save energy—only the sleep mode does.
- Join a Student Energy Patrol and work with your teacher to ensure lights are out when rooms are empty.

For more information on other strategies to save money, visit the Schools Toolkit at www.coolcalifornia.org/schools.