



Champions of the Environment Grant Award Application

Visit des.sc.gov/champions "How are grant winners chosen?" for evaluation criteria

* Required

Background

1. How did you hear about the Champions of the Environment program?
Select all that apply. If "Other," please specify. *

- EEASC
- Green Step Schools
- Take Action SC
- Champions Website
- Social Media
- Email
- Other

2025-2026

School Information

2. School Name *

3. School Address *

4. School Phone Number *

5. School District

6. County *

7. Has your school won a Champions Award in the past 5 years? *

No

Yes

8. Which year did your school win a Champions award?
Select all that apply.

2025-2026

2024-2025

2023-2024

2022-2023

2021-2022

2025-2026

Contact Information

9. School/School District Bookkeeper--full name, email address, and phone number *

10. Primary Project Coordinator--full name *

11. Primary Project Coordinator--job title and primary work location *

12. Primary Project Coordinator--email address *

13. Primary Project Coordinator--phone number *

14. Secondary Project Coordinator--full name

15. Secondary Project Coordinator--job title and primary work location

16. Secondary Project Coordinator--email address

17. Secondary Project Coordinator--phone number

2025-2026

Project Information

18. Project Name *

19. What grade level will be involved in the project?
Select all that apply. If "Other," please specify. *

- Elementary school
- Middle school
- High school
- Other

20. Briefly describe the proposed project. What are the project goals? *

21. Is this project a brand-new initiative or does it expand upon existing efforts? *

- New Initiative
- Expansion

22. If the project is an expansion, tell us briefly about previous work related to the project.

23. How will the project result in cleaner air or water, healthier soil, improved wildlife habitat, water or energy efficiency, resource conservation, or other tangible environmental benefits? *

24. Describe **in detail** all hands-on activities the students will be directly involved in. *

25. How many students will **directly** participate in the **daily/weekly** work on the project? *

2025-2026

Outreach

26. What outreach activities will students complete to educate others about the project? E.g. educational signage, newsletters, community outreach events, etc. *

27. Community partners such as environmental educators and local organizations can provide additional funding, resources, assistance, and guidance, and extend project outreach to the community. Do you have any **confirmed** project partners? *

- No
- Yes

28. Identify your **confirmed** community partners. Select all that apply. If "Other," please specify. *

- Parents
- Teachers
- Businesses
- City/County Government
- Girl/Boy Scouts
- College/University
- Non-Profit/Environmental Organization
- Master Gardener/Naturalist
- Other

29. **Who** from the confirmed organization(s) selected above will be involved and **what activities** will they perform? *

Grant Management

COTE Awards can provide up to \$2,500 to support a project for one year. Additional funds from other sources may be needed to complete or continue some projects.

30. How do you plan to spend the Major Award (up to \$2,500)? List all supplies/materials needed with estimated costs. Add these individual costs to provide the total estimated expenses.

Use of grant funds for salaries/wages or promotional items including food, t-shirts, prizes, etc. is prohibited. *

31. What could you accomplish with a smaller Merit Award (up to \$1,500)? List all supplies/materials needed with estimated costs. Add these individual costs to provide the total estimated expenses.

Use of grant funds for salaries/wages or promotional items including food, t-shirts, prizes, etc. is prohibited. *

32. Identify any additional funding sources (e.g., other grants, donations, fundraisers, etc.) to complete or continue this project.

33. While all Champions grant funds must be expended by the end of the school year, many environmental projects have the potential to continue for years into the future. Describe the maintenance/sustainability plan for the project. *

34. What else you would like to tell us about the project?

35. Indicate permission to share your contact information with Champions partners, including Dominion Energy, Sylvamo, and the Environmental Education Association of South Carolina. *

Yes

No

36. Enter your initials to acknowledge required submission of a project summary at the end of the school year. A form will be emailed to you in April. *

37. Enter your initials to acknowledge that all funds must be expended, and all activities must be completed, by the end of the school year for which the grant is awarded. *

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Microsoft Forms

2025-2026