

# School Recycling Grant Guidelines

Goal: *To provide monetary resources that will help schools reach goals to reduce solid waste disposal and/or increase recycling, compost, and landfill diversion rates.*

## 1. Grant eligibility

- a. School must serve students that live in a municipality served by or affiliated with ecomaine. (Visit [ecomaine.org](http://ecomaine.org) or click here for a full list of communities.)
- b. School may be public or private and of any grade levels (including post-high school, pre-K, or afterschool).
- c. School must agree to provide two progress reports to ecomaine: at the midpoint (**December 15, 2023**) and upon the completion date (no later than **April 30, 2024**).
- d. School must be willing to freely share its program and results with other schools for replication purposes.
- e. Grantees agree to coordinate with ecomaine Education staff for a free visit (on-site or remotely) to engage with school staff and/or students to promote greatest efficacy of grant funds.

## 2. Grant money available

- a. ecomaine will make school grants available from a pool of \$30,000.
- b. School may apply for a grant in any amount up to \$5,000.
- c. Money awarded by ecomaine must be spent in accordance with the applicant's submission to ecomaine.
- d. Grant monies will be awarded to schools, not individuals.
- e. Grant monies will be dispersed:
  - i. Eighty percent (80%) upon signature of initial grant agreement.
  - ii. Twenty percent (20%) upon completion of the final project report\*.

## 3. Grant Application

- a. Applications are due by **May 12, 2023**; late applications cannot be considered.
- b. Grant applications must be approved by the school's principal, superintendent, or president.
- c. Applications must include specifics that address these judging criteria:
  - i. Project outline and school commitment
  - ii. Ease of project replication
  - iii. Demonstration of waste reduction, reuse, recycling, or composting (note that gardening/similar programs will be given lower priority than waste diversion ones)
  - iv. Likelihood of success and program sustainability
  - v. Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding
- d. Applications will be judged by ecomaine's Outreach & Recycling Committee.
- e. Application forms are available at [www.ecomaine.org](http://www.ecomaine.org), by emailing [info@ecomaine.org](mailto:info@ecomaine.org) or by calling 207-773-1738, extension 1.

***\*Mid-term reports to be completed no later than December 15, 2023.***

***Final reports to be completed no later than April 30, 2024.***

***Lack of a final report may affect future grant consideration.***