

**Recycling Waste School Waste Reduction and Environmental  
Educational Grant Opportunities  
FY 2008/09  
Responses to Applicants' Questions (March 31, 2009)**

This list will be updated periodically as questions are received from applicants. The last day to submit questions to submit questions was Thursday, March 26, 2009.

**1. Can hand held devices like Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) that students can use to download schoolwork to reduce paper be used as an expense from the grant?**

The Waste Reduction and Environmental Educational (RSWREE) grant money will not be used to purchase office equipment. However, RSWREE grant money may be used for special equipment that is integral to the success of the proposed grant project and must meet grant program objectives related to recycling and waste diversion through out Orange County, and to increase environmental literacy by aligning curriculum-based environmental education programs to learning activities that engage students in making informed waste prevention choices.

**2. Who can apply for the RSWREE grant?**

Any school or school district responsible for environmental education within the County of Orange, California, is eligible. Grants are not awarded to individuals. A school or school district as the project lead may submit only one application for a Regional School Waste Reduction and Environmental Education Grant annually. A school or school district may be listed on another application as a partner or supporter of the grant project and still apply separately for a different proposed project. Multiple applicants may partner together to serve broader numbers of students within the scope of the proposed program or project.

**3. Why apply for the RSWREE grant?**

The RSWREE grant program is designed to improve the campus' environmental performances and benefit in cost reductions by decreasing the waste disposal services needed through implementation of school waste reduction programs. Applicant(s) of the RSWREE grant funds may subsidize the cost of such items as, but not limited to:

- Recycling equipment, e.g. small bins, large recycling “dumpsters,” etc.
- Recycling pick-up services
- Promotional and advertising materials to support your recycling program

**4. How much funding is available in the RSWREE grant?**

\$500,000 in funding is available on a competitive basis. Grant applicants are requested to state the minimum grant requested and a maximum grant award request up to a \$500,000 limit.

**5. Are matching funds required in the RSWREE grant?**

No. Matching funds are not required. Program or activity should highlight leveraging opportunities such as matching/additional funding, in-kind services, and public and/or private partnerships.

**6. Is cost sharing required in the RSWREE grant?**

No. Cost sharing is not required. If eligible expenses are more than the awarded grant amount, an applicant may cover the difference and show this as cost sharing in the project's proposed project.

**7. My School Board does not hold a Board Meeting until after the application deadline. Therefore, I am unable to obtain a resolution before submitting the application. May resolutions for the grant be turned in after the application package is submitted? What is the final deadline?**

Yes. The approved Resolution for jurisdiction and all supporting documents for a regional program, such as letters of support for each participating school and school district should be submitted with the application by **April 23, 2009**. If the resolution is not submitted with the application, the resolution must be received no later than **May 14, 2009**. Submitting an incomplete application will affect the application's "Completeness" score.

**8. I'm we required to submit a resolution?**

Yes. A School Board Resolution is required.

**9. Can a school write the grant request to include matching funds?**

Yes. See answers to questions #5 and #6 above.

**10. Can a foundation such as Inside the Outdoors (ITO) apply and disseminate grants to schools?**

Yes. Acting as lead applicant on behalf of the Orange County Department of Education or in partnership with any eligible schools or school district, ITO may apply for the **RSWREE** grant funding. Grant funds may be used to support schools' waste reduction and environmental education programs. Refer to RSWREE grant programs and objectives ([Click here for School Grant Application Criteria.](#)). This is a one-time grant to be awarded to the grant recipient or lead applicant that is party to the financial assistance agreement with the County. OC Waste & Recycling will monitor that the funds are used for the stated grant purposes; however, dissemination of funds among partners is an administrative function of the proposed partnership.

**11. Can ITO include recycling bins for ITO's Rancho Sonado field site and OCDE's District Office site?**

Yes. See answer to question #3 above.

**12. What is the format or length for the grant proposal?**

The narrative for the RSWREE grant should not exceed 10 pages. Refer to page 3 of 6 of the RSWREE grant application ([Click here for School Grant Application Form](#)).

**13. There are many levels that we could offer up in the proposal. That is, we could offer a proposal for the maximum amount or one that makes sense with your goals. What level of funding would you suggest that would meet your criteria for funding projects?**

\$500,000 in funding is available on a competitive basis. Grant applicants are requested to state the minimum grant requested and a maximum grant award request up to a \$500,000 limit and highlight the levels of service provided for each level of funding. All RSWREE proposals must be sustainable and meet grant program objectives and criteria. Refer to RSWREE grant programs and objectives ([Click here for the School Grant Application Criteria.](#)).