

Cool Schools Questionnaire 2011 Score Key

Category 1: Energy Supply

1. Please break down the energy types that your campus uses for electricity by percentage. If your school purchases its electricity from a utility company, this information should be available from that company. If you insert a number into the "other" category, specify the energy source.

____% Coal ____% Wind ____% Biomass
____% Natural gas ____% Solar ____% Geothermal
____% Nuclear ____% Hydro ____% Other _____

(% renewable sources [wind, solar, hydro, biomass, geothermal, REC] *6) + (% natural gas *2) =

2. What type(s) of energy does your campus use for heating buildings? If you insert a number into the "other" category, specify the energy source.

____% Coal ____% Biomass ____% Electricity
____% Natural gas ____% Geothermal ____% Fuel oil
____% Other _____

If cogeneration, please explain.

(% renewable sources [wind, solar, hydro, biomass, geothermal, landfill gas] *4) + (% cogeneration *3) + (%natural gas *2) =

Category 2: Efficiency

1. What percentage of campus buildings completed within the past five years have a LEED certification of at least silver, or an equivalent rating from another certifier? (If an equivalent rating, please specify which rating and certifier.)

_____ %

0 < 10%; ½ for 10%-15%; 1 for 16 to 75%; 2 for > 75%; 2 for no new buildings

2. What percentage of water used for campus landscaping is from recovered, reclaimed, or untreated sources?

_____ %

0 for none; ½ for <25%; 1 ≥ 25% (1pt for primarily using rain water)

3. What percentage of campus lighting fixtures, including indoor and outdoor, are energy efficient (e.g., compact fluorescent, LED, or equipped with motion sensors, automatic daylight shutoff, or other energy-conserving features)?

_____ %

0 for < 25%; 1 for 25% to 75%; 2 for >75%

4. What percentage of campus appliances are Energy Star-rated?

_____ %

0 for <50%; 1 for 50% to 75%; 2 for >75%

5. Does your school have in place energy-efficiency retrofitting programs, such as improving building insulation or sealing ducts? If yes, by what percentage have these programs reduced (or will they reduce) consumption over a three-year period?

_____ No

_____ Yes _____ %

0 for <5%; 1 for 5% to 15%; 2 for >15%

6. Does your school have a program to monitor, record, and assess patterns of electricity and water consumption as a means of regularly evaluating and improving buildings' environmental performance? If yes, provide the percentage of buildings monitored for each and describe the program.

Electricity:

_____ No

_____ Yes _____ %

Water:

_____ No

_____ Yes _____ %

0 for < 10%; ½ for 10%-50%; 1 for > 50% (only the highest percentage scored)

Category 3: Food

1. What percentage (in dollars) of food served at cafeterias is grown or raised within 100 miles

of campus?

_____ %

0 for none; ½ for <20%; 1 for ≥ 20%

2. What percentage (in dollars) of food served at campus cafeterias is USDA-certified organic?

_____ %

0 for none; 1/2 for 1% to 5%; 1 for 6% to 19%; 2 for ≥ 20%

3. Do campus cafeterias source seafood that is deemed sustainable by the Marine Stewardship Council, the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch Program, or a similar program?

0 for no; 1 for yes

4. What is the dollar amount spent on all cafeteria meat purchases per year? What is the total number of cafeteria meals served? If the meat is produced sustainably (for example, free-range or grass-fed), please explain.

0 for >\$1.00/meal; 1 for \$.50- \$1.00/meal or use of sustainably raised meat; 2 <\$.50/meal or < \$1.00/meal with > some sustainably raised meat.

5. Are nutritionally complete vegetarian and/or vegan options available at every meal?

0 for no or salad bar only; 1 for vegetarian; 2 for vegan and vegetarian

6. Is bottled water sold or distributed on campus?

0 for yes; ½ for substantial efforts to minimize; 1 for none

7. Does your school maintain a campus farm or garden on which students can work?

0 for no; 1 yes

Category 4: Academics

1. Does your school offer environment- and/or sustainability-related majors, such as environmental studies, ecology, or sustainable agriculture? If so, list up to six.

0 for no; 1 for 1 to 5 majors; 2 for more than 5 majors

2. Does your school offer classes about clean technologies, including topics such as energy efficiency and solar-wind engineering? If so, list up to five.

0 for no; 1 for 1 to 4 classes; 2 for > 4 classes

3. Does your school provide students with a list of environmental and/or sustainability classes to make such courses easy to identify? Please provide a link, if available.

0 for no; 1 for yes

4. Please provide names of up to four standout professors who work on environmental and/or sustainability issues. List their primary accomplishments, including awards, honors, and noteworthy publications.

0 for none; ½ for 1-3; 1 for >3 professors with awards, honors, and noteworthy publications

5. Is your school associated with any environment- and/or sustainability-related centers, programs, or research institutions? If so, please provide their names and a description.

0 for no; 1 for yes

6. Is an environment-themed class a core curriculum requirement? If yes, please provide the name(s) of the course(s).

0 for no; 1 for yes

7. What percentage of academic departments offer environment- or sustainability-related classes?

_____ %

0 for < 10%; 1 for 10% to 25%; 2 for >25%

Category 5: Purchasing

1. Does your school have a university-wide sustainable-purchasing policy? If yes, briefly explain.

0 for no; 1 for partial or in development; 2 for yes

2. What percentage of paper used on campus is made from at least 30% postconsumer recycled content?

_____ %

2. 0 for <30% recycled; 1 for %30 to 70% recycled; 2 for > %70 recycled

3. Does your school purchase paper that is Forest Stewardship Council–certified?

0 for none; 1 for yes

4. Does your school have a policy to purchase electronics that have Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) certification (or similar)? If yes, please describe.

0 for no; 1 for Energy Star; 2 for EPEAT or similar

5. Does your school have packaging agreements with suppliers that minimize waste? If yes, please describe.

0 for no; 1 for partial; 2 for yes

6. Does your school specify in its purchasing contracts that products with energy-saving features be installed or delivered with these features enabled?

0 for no; 1 for yes

Category 6: Transportation

1. Does your school provide a free shuttle service around campus and town? If yes, briefly explain.

0 for no; 1 for yes

2. What percentage of your school's vehicle fleet is hybrid or electric or uses sustainable biofuels?

_____ %

0 for none; ½ for up to 50%, 1 > 50%

3. List specific steps your school has taken to promote walking and bicycling as transportation methods.

0 for none; ½ for two or fewer of the following; 1 for more than two of the following; Cycling: Providing bike lanes, integrated commuting (e.g., bicycles on buses), car-free zones, a bicycle-share program, secure bicycle parking in addition to bike racks, a bicycle repair shop, clearing bike lanes from snow. Walking: Providing car-free zones such as pedestrian malls, sidewalks, and foot paths illuminated at night, timed crosswalks available at intersections, clearing footpaths of snow

4. Does your school offer its students and employees incentives to carpool, take public transit, or use some other form of communal transportation? If yes, please describe.

1 for one or more incentive

5. Approximately what percentage of students commute to school in a car?

_____ %

0 for > %75; 1 for 50% to %75; 2 for 25% to 49%; 3 for < 25%

6. Approximately what percentage of faculty and staff commute to work in a car?

_____ %

0 for > %75; 1 for 50% to %75; 2 for 25% to 49%; 3 for < 25%

Category 7: Waste Management

1. What is your campus's current waste-diversion rate (i.e., percentage of campus waste being diverted from landfills)?

_____ %

0 for <20%; 1 for 20% to 39%; 2 for 40% - 60%; 3 for >60%

2. Are recycling receptacles readily available throughout campus? If yes, please describe.

½ for readily available; 1 for next to every public trashcan

3. Are recycling bins readily available at large events such as football games?

0 for no; 1 for yes to recycling at large events

4. Does your school compost? If yes, are compost receptacles available at all or most oncampus dining locations? Are compost receptacles available at all or most food-preparation facilities (i.e., cafeteria and restaurant kitchens)?

0 for no; 1 for yes, kitchens only or limited locations; 2 for yes, kitchens and dining rooms

5. Does your school have a stated commitment to waste-reduction goals, such as zero waste? If applicable, briefly explain the plan of action.

0 for no; 1 for yes, limited waste-reduction goals; 2 for yes, zero-waste goals with a plan of action

6. Does your school administer a donation program for clothing and other used goods when students are moving out of campus housing? If so, are bins placed in every dormitory?

0 for no; ½ for limited availability; 1 for yes, in every dorm

Category 8: Administration

1. Is environmental sustainability part of your institution's mission statement or guiding principles? If so, please provide the text or a link.

0 for no; ½ for related but not core mission; 1 for core mission

2. Does your school employ at least one person dedicated to overseeing campus environmental initiatives, such as a sustainability coordinator, or have a sustainability task force or committee? Is the coordinator position part-time or full-time?

0 for no; 1 for part-time coordinator or task force/committee; 2 for full-time coordinator

3. Does your school have a formal policy to integrate life-cycle cost analysis into plans for constructing or renovating buildings? If yes, please explain.

0 for no; 1 for yes

4. Has your school made an official commitment to reducing its impact on climate change by setting goals of emissions reductions by a certain date? If yes, does your school have a plan for achieving these reductions? If so, briefly explain the plan.

0 for no; 1 for commitment but no plan; 2 for commitment and a plan

5. Has your school conducted a complete greenhouse-gas-emissions audit of its campus?

0 for no; 2 for yes

6. Has your school achieved a reduction in total annual carbon emissions? If yes, please explain and provide the benchmark year and percentage.

0 for no; 1 for 1% to 10% reduction; 2 for >10% reduction

Category 9: Financial Investments

1. Is all information about your school's endowment fund publicly available? Briefly explain.

0 for no; 1 for partially available; 2 for publicly available

2. Does your school have an investment-responsibility committee that considers and acts on environmental issues? If so, provide key examples of actions it has taken.

0 for no; 1 for committee or similar; 3 for committee with examples of actions taken

3. Does your school have, or is it planning to implement, a formal policy that restricts or prohibits investments in fossil fuels? If yes, briefly explain.

0 for no; 1 for planning; 2 for having a policy

4. What percentage of your school's overall endowment is invested in companies or funds that further renewable energy and clean technology?

_____ %

0 for none; 1 for 1%-3%; 2 for 4-5%; 3 for > 5%

Category 10: Other Initiatives

1. Have any of your school's students effected positive environmental change on a campus, state, or national level? If so, please describe. (To nominate a specific student for greater attention in our coverage, please email cool.schools@sierraclub.org with his or her name, accomplishments, and contact information. For privacy reasons, please do not include students' contact information here).

0 for no; 1 for yes with description

2. Have students participated in regional or national environmental challenges or events such as the Solar Decathlon or environmental design contests? If so, which events and how did they do?

0 for no; ½ for participating; 1 for winning

3. Has your school set aside part of its campus as natural habitat, stipulated limited campus development, or enacted programs preserving its land? If so, please explain.

0 for no; 1 for a limited-development or land-preservation policy or for natural habitat

4. Does your school adhere to an indoor air-quality policy (e.g., the mandated use of nontoxic cleaning supplies or paints)? If yes, describe the policy.

0 for no; 1 for yes

5. Does your school offer outdoor- or field-based classes or academic programs? If so, please list and describe up to three. (To nominate a specific program for greater attention in our coverage, please email cool.schools@sierraclub.org with a detailed description and the program coordinator's contact information.)

0 for no program; 1 for at least one outdoor- or field-based class or program

6. Does your school offer campus-sponsored, nature-based extracurricular activities to students and/or faculty? If yes, please list and describe up to three.

0 for no program; 1 for at least one campus-sponsored nature-based activity

Category 10: Other Initiatives {continued}

7. What specific actions, if any, has your school taken to improve its environmental sustainability since spring 2010? Please list and describe.

0 for nothing; 1 for new initiatives

8. Use this space to address any other unique or interesting sustainability initiatives at your school that have not already been mentioned:

1 for each substantial initiative (up to 3 maximum)

Please save this PDF with your answers and email it to cool.schools@sierraclub.org no later than **April 20, 2011**. Thank you very much for your participation