

Questions and Answers for Request for Applications #2021-2114-WPD

Nature Near School Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences Grant

For all content below acronyms and language used:

- NNS: Nature Near Schools
- MWEE: Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences
- DOEE: Department of Energy and the Environment (DC)
- NNS MWEE Program: Program (as defined in pp.23-24 in RFA)

Q1: What is preferred – schoolyard site or something that is walkable?

A1: There is no preference. Emphasis is placed on individualized curriculum. Programs that rely solely on bussing are not eligible, though bus trips may be an option as health and safety guidelines and field trip policies allow them.

Q2: Would a school be able to partner with multiple applicants?

A2: Yes, if there is interest from multiple teachers at one school and there is high demand for the Program to be implemented, then a school can partner with multiple applicants. In the application, it would have to be clear why one partner would not be able to deliver the programming at one school.

Q3: If we are interested in doing more than five sessions with each school, would that be allowed?

A3: Yes, the parameter of conducting five sessions and an action project is a minimum requirement.

Q4: Will funding be available after this upcoming funding year?

A4: This pilot is expected to be implemented for one school year, while the overnight MWEE program is paused due to pandemic restrictions. DOEE plans on integrating the best practices, identified through implementing the NNS pilot, into the Overnight MWEE when overnight programs are safe to resume. If DOEE has the funding and a pilot appears successful, DOEE may extend a grant and may fund the extension, at its discretion. Grantees may have the grant period extended and receive additional funding if DOEE deems it appropriate. Extensions may not be available for all grantees and will depend on grantee performance, availability of funds, and DOEE's determination.