

**(c) Priority projects**

In making grants pursuant to this section, the Administrator shall give priority to those proposed projects which will develop—

- (1) a new or significantly improved environmental education practice, method, or technique;
- (2) an environmental education practice, method, or technique which may have wide application;
- (3) an environmental education practice, method, or technique which addresses a skill or scientific field identified as a priority in the report developed pursuant to section 5508(d) of this title; and
- (4) an environmental education practice, method, or technique which addresses an environmental issue which, in the judgment of the Administrator, is of a high priority.

**(d) Scope of program and implementing regulations**

The program established by this section shall include solicitations for projects, selection of suitable projects from among those proposed, supervision of such projects, evaluation of the results of projects, and dissemination of information on the effectiveness and feasibility of the practices, methods, techniques and processes. Within one year of November 16, 1990, the Administrator shall publish regulations to assure satisfactory implementation of each element of the program authorized by this section.

**(e) Solicitation notices**

Within 90 days after the date on which amounts are first appropriated for carrying out this chapter, and each year thereafter, the Administrator shall publish a solicitation for environmental education grants. The solicitation notice shall prescribe the information to be included in the proposal and other information sufficient to permit the Administrator to assess the project.

**(f) Applications**

Any local education agency, college or university, State education agency or environmental agency, not-for-profit organization, or non-commercial educational broadcasting entity may submit an application to the Administrator in response to the solicitations required by subsection (e) of this section.

**(g) Performance of projects**

Each project under this section shall be performed by the applicant, or by a person satisfactory to the applicant and the Administrator.

**(h) Matching requirements**

Federal funds for any demonstration project under this section shall not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of such project. For the purposes of this section, the non-Federal share of project costs may be provided by in-kind contributions and other noncash support. In cases where the Administrator determines that a proposed project merits support and cannot be undertaken without a higher rate of Federal support, the Administrator may approve grants under this section with a matching requirement other than that specified in this subsection, including full Federal funding.

**(i) Limitations on grants**

Grants under this section shall not exceed \$250,000. In addition, 25 percent of all funds obligated under this section in a fiscal year shall be for grants of not more than \$5,000.

(Pub. L. 101-619, § 6, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3330.)

**§ 5506. Environmental internships and fellowships****(a) Postsecondary students and in-service teachers**

The Administrator shall, in consultation with the Office of Personnel Management and other appropriate Federal agencies, provide for internships by postsecondary level students and fellowships for in-service teachers with agencies of the Federal Government.

**(b) Purpose**

The purpose of internships and fellowships pursuant to this section shall be to provide college level students and in-service teachers with an opportunity to work with professional staff of Federal agencies involved in environmental issues and thereby gain an understanding and appreciation of such issues and the skills and abilities appropriate to such professions.

**(c) Minimum number of internships and fellowships**

The Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, support not less than 250 internships each year and not less than 50 fellowships each year.

**(d) Management of programs; eligible agencies**

The internship and fellowship programs shall be managed by the Office of Environmental Education. Interns and fellows may serve in appropriate agencies of the Federal Government including, but not limited to, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Council on Environmental Quality, Federal natural resource management agencies, the Department of Agriculture, and the National Science Foundation.

**(e) Length of internships and fellowships; funding**

Interns shall be hired on a temporary, full-time basis for not to exceed 6 months and shall be compensated appropriately. Fellows shall be hired on a temporary full-time basis for not to exceed 12 months and shall be compensated appropriately. Federal agencies hiring interns shall provide the funds necessary to support salaries and related costs.

**(f) Eligible individuals**

(1) Individuals eligible for participation in the internship program are students enrolled at accredited colleges or universities who have successfully completed not less than four courses or the equivalent in environmental sciences or studies, as determined by the Administrator.

(2) Individuals eligible for participation in the fellowship program are in-service teachers who are currently employed by a local education agency and have not less than 2 years experience in teaching environmental education, environmental sciences, or related courses.

**(g) Applications**

Individuals shall be selected for internships and fellowships based on applications which shall be in such form as the Administrator considers appropriate.

**(h) Geographic, cultural, and minority representation**

In selecting individuals for internships and fellowships, the Administrator shall provide for wide geographic, cultural, and minority representation.

(Pub. L. 101-619, §7, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3331.)

**§ 5507. Environmental education awards****(a) National awards**

The Administrator shall provide for a series of national awards recognizing outstanding contributions to environmental education.

**(b) Required awards**

In addition to such other awards as the Administrator may provide for, national environmental awards shall include—

(1) The “Theodore Roosevelt Award” to be given in recognition of an outstanding career in environmental education, teaching, or administration;

(2) The “Henry David Thoreau Award” to be given in recognition of an outstanding contribution to literature on the natural environment and environmental pollution problems;

(3) The “Rachael Carson Award” to be given in recognition of an outstanding contribution in print, film, or broadcast media to public education and information on environmental issues or problems; and

(4) The “Gifford Pinchot Award” to be given in recognition of an outstanding contribution to education and training concerning forestry and natural resource management, including multiple use and sustained yield land management.

**(c) Nomination by Environmental Education Advisory Council**

Recipients of education awards provided for in subsection (b) of this section shall be nominated by the Environmental Education Advisory Council provided for in section 5508 of this title.

**(d) President’s Environmental Youth Awards**

The Administrator may provide for the “President’s Environmental Youth Awards” to be given to young people in grades kindergarten through twelfth for an outstanding project to promote local environmental awareness.

**(e) Cash awards for elementary and secondary education teachers and local educational agencies**

(1) The Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, on behalf of the President, is authorized to develop and administer an awards program to recognize elementary and secondary education teachers and their local educational agencies who demonstrate excellence in advancing environmental education through innovative approaches. One teacher, and the local education agency employing such teacher, from each State, including the District of Columbia

and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, are eligible to be selected for an award pursuant to this subsection.

(2) The Chairman is authorized to provide a cash award of up to \$2,500 to each teacher selected to receive an award pursuant to this section, which shall be used to further the recipient’s professional development in environmental education.

(3) The Chairman is also authorized to provide a cash award of up to \$2,500 to the local education agency employing any teacher selected to receive an award pursuant to this section, which shall be used to fund environmental educational activities and programs. Such awards may not be used for construction costs, general expenses, salaries, bonuses, or other administrative expenses.

(Pub. L. 101-619, §8, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3332.)

**§ 5508. Environmental Education Advisory Council and Task Force****(a) Establishment**

There is hereby established a National Environmental Education Advisory Council and a Federal Task Force on Environmental Education.

**(b) Advisory Council; duties; members; terms of office; compensation; termination**

(1) The Advisory Council shall advise, consult with, and make recommendations to, the Administrator on matters relating to activities, functions, and policies of the Agency under this chapter. With respect to such matters, the Council shall be the exclusive advisory entity for the Administrator. The Council may exchange information with other Advisory Councils established by the Administrator. The Office of Environmental Education shall provide staff support to the Council.

(2) The Advisory Council shall consist of 11 members appointed by the Administrator after consultation with the Secretary. Two members shall be appointed to represent primary and secondary education (one of whom shall be a classroom teacher); two members shall be appointed to represent colleges and universities; two members shall be appointed to represent not-for-profit organizations involved in environmental education; two members shall be appointed to represent State departments of education and natural resources; two representatives shall be appointed to represent business and industry; and one representative shall be appointed to represent senior Americans. A representative of the Secretary shall serve as an ex officio member of the Advisory Council. The conflict of interest provision at section 208(a) of title 18 shall not apply to members’ participation in particular matters which affect the financial interests of employers which they represent pursuant to this subsection.

(3) The Administrator shall provide that members of the Council represent the various geographic regions of the country, has minority representation, and that the professional backgrounds of the members include scientific, policy, and other appropriate disciplines.

(4) Each member of the Advisory Council shall hold office for a term of 3 years, except that—