



Green Classroom Professional Certificate Program

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There are many things that are important when it comes to educating students – the curriculum, student engagement and motivation and teacher effectiveness all play important roles in our nation’s classrooms. However, what is oftentimes lost in these conversations is the significant effects that the physical learning space has on student health and performance. We understand the huge impact a classroom can have on our students. Therefore, we are launching a new program to teach educators about how to make their schools more sustainable and healthy places in which to learn, work and teach.

The [Green Classroom Professional Certificate program](#) emerged out of an increasing need to empower teachers and other professionals to make changes in how their classrooms operate. The program, primarily for parents, teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals and operations and maintenance professionals, will provide the tools to make classrooms healthier and sustainable while influencing a new generation of students.

The certificate program will encourage teachers to:

- Gain knowledge in green building practices, particularly for their classrooms and schools
- Use knowledge to make classroom/learning spaces healthier and sustainable learning environments
- Help foster an attitude among youth and future generations to appreciate and model green building and sustainable practices
- Support green building and sustainability practices through energy savings, water efficiency, CO₂ emissions reduction and improved indoor air quality
- Support health among school occupants and decrease student absenteeism due to environmental factors

Teachers from around the country have already reviewed and contributed feedback to improve the early versions of the program. Teachers have been impressed by the fact that the course addressed many learning styles and was applicable to teachers actively involved in many capacities related to the environment or sustainability.

The certificate program design enables teachers and others the flexibility to complete 12 virtual modules and an online assessment wherever they have a computer and an internet connection.

So why should a teacher sign up? Because the space in which education occurs is important to the health and well-being of our future leaders. This program gives teachers an opportunity to learn new ways to make classrooms healthier learning spaces for students and other classroom occupants.

The program is scheduled to launch in March 2012, so stay tuned for more information about how you can enroll! For more information, visit centerforgreenschools.org/greenclassroom.



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