

# HEY STUDENTS! MEET THE SEAL Of CLIMATE LITERACY



This Seal is all about helping you become a leader in tackling the economic and social impacts of climate change. It's designed to support you as you make a difference and prepare for your future.

New in 2024, Colorado's <u>Senate Bill 24-014</u> has established the Seal of Climate Literacy high school diploma endorsement.

# WHY A SEAL OF CLIMATE LITERACY?

So many Colorado youth recognize the urgency of addressing climate change. Colorado communities will need individuals ready to tackle emerging challenges in fields like energy, agriculture, forestry, policy, community planning, and outdoor recreation, the Seal of Climate Literacy high school diploma endorsement will equip you with crucial knowledge and skills.

The Seal is designed to provide you with both foundational climate education and practical, real-world experience. It's your opportunity to deepen your understanding of climate issues and become actively involved in solutions.

# WHY SHOULD YOU PURSUE THE SEAL?

The Seal was designed to help you understand how climate change affects your community and the world. It turns your interest in climate issues into a learning experience that can boost your preparation for college and future careers.

# REQUIREMENTS TO ATTAIN THE SEAL

Meet minimum high school graduation requirements

### >> Two courses:

- Any high school science course such as earth science, biology, or environmental studies and
- A second course that includes climate literacy standards.
   This course could be humanities, concurrent enrollment, CTE, or another science class.

# >> Experiential learning project:

Complete a project that demonstrates your understanding of climate change. The focus of this project is up to you in partnership with your school.





LEARNING PROJECT?

Want to make a real impact on climate change? Dive into hands-on projects right in your own community! Studies show that the best way to connect with climate issues is through experiential learning that's relevant to your life. Your school can also approve a school club, local nonprofit, company, or community partner to work with you on your project.

Inspiration for your experiential learning project:

- Learn how to install solar panels and promote clean energy.
- Conduct a soil experiment on your family's farm to understand sustainable agriculture.
- Measure snow levels in mountain communities to track climate changes.
- Start a club to reduce energy consumption or waste at your school.
- Create a short story, film, or social campaign about climate literacy.
- Analyze how trees in city parks help reduce carbon.

# I'M INTERESTED! WHAT NOW?

Great! Be part of the solution to climate change in your community and gain valuable experience along the way! Your school district, school or other local education provider can choose to confer the Seal and approve coursework and final projects that qualify. Start by speaking to your school leadership, teachers, or counselors to make them aware of your interest.

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Visit https://sustainability.dpsk12.org/ student-resources/ for more information and application links.



# **POTENTIAL BENEFITS** TO YOU

#### Real-World Skills:

Expand your academic and career opportunities in green fields.

### **Boost Mental Health:**

Engage in projects that can help you feel more empowered and positive about our earth's future.

# Critical Thinking:

Sharpen your problem-solving skills to tackle complex environmental challenges.

#### Leadership:

Boost your leadership abilities and become a strong advocate for a sustainable future.

# College & Career Ready:

Stand out on resumes and college applications with a clear commitment to making a difference.

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