



# EcoSchools Certification Rubric



## Levels of Achievement

Please refer to the rubric below for guidance on the criteria EcoSchools Canada uses to assess school applications (also known as your school's Plan on the [ECA](#)).

 <b>Participant</b>	 <b>Bronze</b>	 <b>Silver</b>	 <b>Gold</b>	 <b>Platinum</b>
<b>Program Initiated</b> The EcoSchools program was initiated.	<b>Emerging Program</b> The EcoSchools program is in its early stages and some environmental learning and action has been demonstrated.	<b>Developing Program</b> The EcoSchools program is in development and environmental learning and action has been demonstrated throughout the school.	<b>Accomplished Program</b> The EcoSchools program has a strong foundation with the whole school community, and environmental learning and action is well integrated throughout the school year.	<b>Outstanding Program</b> The EcoSchools program is well-established. Environmental learning and action is a defining element of school culture throughout the school year and extends beyond the school walls.

## Assessment Criteria by Level

Each item in this section must be completed to qualify for the associated Level of Achievement. Fulfilment of these items will be combined with an EcoSchools Assessor's evaluation of Program Elements ([page 2](#)) to award a Level of Achievement for the year.

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Bronze</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Platinum</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Create a Plan (school application) on ECA	<input type="checkbox"/> Create a Plan (school application) on ECA <input type="checkbox"/> Submit application before deadline <input type="checkbox"/> Achieve 50-65 points <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in school visit, if required <input type="checkbox"/> Program Elements have been started	<input type="checkbox"/> Create a Plan (school application) on ECA <input type="checkbox"/> Submit application before deadline <input type="checkbox"/> Achieve 66-74 points <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in school visit, if required <input type="checkbox"/> Program Elements are somewhat fulfilled	<input type="checkbox"/> Create a Plan (school application) on ECA <input type="checkbox"/> Submit application before deadline <input type="checkbox"/> Achieve 75-100 points <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in school visit, if required <input type="checkbox"/> Program Elements are mostly fulfilled	<input type="checkbox"/> Create a Plan (school application) on ECA <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Platinum Eligibility Questionnaire <input type="checkbox"/> Submit application before deadline <input type="checkbox"/> Achieve 101 or more points <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in school visit, if required <input type="checkbox"/> Program Elements are fulfilled or go above and beyond



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## Program Elements

**NOTE:** Program Elements are not relevant to the Participant level of achievement.

Rigour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Action documentation:</b> suitable documentation is uploaded to actions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Action description:</b> clear description of how actions were implemented</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Data accuracy:</b> data questions are complete, answered accurately, and allow for impact measurement</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Planning:</b> evidence of self-assessment, action planning, goal setting, etc.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Application completeness</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Relevant Certification Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions related to <b>quantitative data</b> (i.e., numerical values, unique to each action)</li> <li>• Action Documentation</li> <li>• Action Descriptions</li> <li>• <b>Getting Started</b> #6, 7</li> </ul>
Collaboration and Reach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Staff and student involvement:</b> participation from a variety of staff and students throughout the school community</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Interdisciplinarity:</b> environmental program is integrated in a diversity of classes and subject areas</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Visibility / communications:</b> regular communication with school community, environmental program is visible throughout school</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Community involvement:</b> environmental program extends beyond the school walls</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relevant Certification Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions related to <b>engagement and participation</b> (questions #2-4 in most actions)</li> <li>• Questions related to <b>communication</b> (question #6 in most actions)</li> <li>• Questions related to <b>broader community</b> (question #7 in most actions)</li> <li>• Questions related to <b>instructional time</b></li> <li>• <b>Getting Started</b> #4, 5, 10</li> <li>• <b>Environmental Literacy</b> #1, 2, 5, 7, 8</li> </ul>
Student Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Student engagement:</b> diverse participation from across the student body</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Student leadership:</b> opportunities for student leadership and skill building</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Inclusiveness:</b> student voice is at the heart of the environmental program, representing a breadth of involvement from planning to celebration</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relevant Certification Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions related to <b>student engagement and participation</b> (questions #2-3 in most action cards)</li> <li>• Questions related to <b>student leadership</b> (question #5 in most action cards)</li> <li>• Action Description</li> <li>• <b>Getting Started</b> #1, 2</li> <li>• <b>Environmental Literacy</b> #6</li> </ul>
Extensions and Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Reflection and celebration:</b> evidence of reflection on how actions and campaigns went, as well as celebration</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Extended learning:</b> for example, Extend the Learning suggestions in each action's Action Guide; connection with UN Sustainable Development Goals; other learning extensions based in EcoSchools' <a href="#">Action Criteria</a></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Outdoor learning:</b> opportunities for students to learn outdoors and/or foster nature-connections</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relevant Certification Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions related to <b>reflection and celebration</b></li> <li>• Questions related to <b>extending the learning</b></li> <li>• Action Description</li> <li>• <b>Getting Started</b> #8, 9</li> <li>• <b>Environmental Literacy</b> #3, 7, 8, 9</li> </ul>