

EN 1: Student Educators Program

4 points available

Rationale

This credit recognizes institutions with programs that engage students to serve as educators in peer-to-peer sustainability outreach. Such initiatives, sometimes known as Eco-Reps programs, help disseminate sustainability concepts and a sustainability ethic throughout the campus community. In addition, serving as an educator is a valuable learning experience for students that can deepen their understanding of sustainability while developing their outreach and education skills.

Applicability

This credit applies to all institutions with students who are enrolled for credit and attend the physical campus.

Criteria

Part 1. Percentage of students served by a peer-to-peer, sustainability educators program

Institution engages its students in sustainability outreach and education as measured by the percentage of students served (i.e., directly targeted) by a peer-to-peer educators program.

Part 2. Educator hours per student served by a peer-to-peer program

Institution engages its students in sustainability outreach and education as measured by the ratio of the number of hours worked by trained student educators to the number of students served by a peer-to-peer program.

To earn points for this credit, an institution must coordinate an ongoing, *peer-to-peer* sustainability outreach and education program for students by:

- Selecting or appointing students to serve as peer educators and formally designating the students as educators (paid and/or volunteer);
- Providing formal training to the student educators in how to conduct peer outreach; and
- Supporting the program with financial resources (e.g., by providing an annual budget) and/or administrative coordination.

This credit recognizes ongoing student educator programs that engage students as peers on a regular basis. For example, student educators may be responsible for serving (i.e., directly targeting) a particular subset of students, such as those living in residence halls or enrolled in certain academic subdivisions. Thus, a group of students may be served by a program even if not all of these students actively participate.

Sustainability outreach campaigns, sustainability events, and student clubs or groups are not eligible for this credit unless the criteria outlined above are met. These programs are covered by the Outreach Campaign and Student Life credits.

Scoring

Part 1

An institution earns the maximum of 2 points available for Part 1 of this credit by having one or more peer-to-peer educator programs that serve all students enrolled for credit. Incremental points are awarded based on the percentage of students served by a peer-to-peer educators program. For example, an institution with a program that serves 50 percent of all students would earn 1 point (half of the points available for Part 1).

Points for Part 1 are calculated automatically in the STARS Reporting Tool as follows:

Factor		Total number of students served by a peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program		Total number of students enrolled for credit		Points earned for Part 1
2	×	_____	÷	_____	=	Up to 2

Part 2

An institution earns the maximum of 2 points available for Part 2 of this credit when trained student educators work at least one hour annually for each student served by a peer-to-peer educators program. Incremental points are awarded based on the number of hours worked per student served. For example, an institution for which trained student educators work 0.5 hours per student served earns 1 point (half of the points available for Part 2).

Points for Part 2 are calculated automatically in the STARS Reporting Tool as follows:

Factor		Grand total number of hours worked annually by trained student sustainability educators		Total number of students served by a peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program		Points earned for Part 2
2	×	_____	÷	_____	=	Up to 2

Reporting Fields

Required

- ☐ Number of *students enrolled for credit* (headcount)
 - ☐ Total number of students served by a peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program
- If greater than zero, provide:

- ☐ Name of the student educators program (1st program)
- ☐ A brief description of the student educators program (1st program) (Include how student educators are trained and examples of peer-to-peer education and outreach activities.)
- ☐ A brief description of the student educators program's target audience (1st program)
- ☐ Number of trained student educators (1st program)
- ☐ Number of weeks the student educators program is active annually (1st program)

- Average or expected number of hours worked weekly per trained student educator (1st program)
- Total number of hours worked annually by trained student educators (1st program)
- Website URL where information about the student educators program is available (1st program)

If reporting students served by additional peer-to-peer educator programs, for up to two additional programs, provide:

- Name of the student educators program
- A brief description of the student educators program
- A brief description of the student educators program's target audience
- Number of trained student educators
- Number of weeks the student educators program is active annually
- Average or expected number of hours worked weekly per trained student educator
- Total number of hours worked annually by trained student educators
- Website URL where information about the student educators program is available

If reporting students served by more than three programs, provide:

- A brief description of all other student peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education programs
- Number of trained student educators (all other programs)
- Number of weeks, on average, the student educators programs are active annually (all other programs)
- Average or expected number of hours worked weekly per student educator (all other programs)
- Total number of hours worked annually by trained student educators (all other programs)

Optional

- Website URL where information about the student sustainability educators programs is available
- Additional documentation to support the submission (upload)
- Data source(s) and notes about the submission
- Contact information for a responsible party (an employee who can respond to questions regarding the data once it is submitted and available to the public)

Measurement

Timeframe

Report on current program status and offerings at the time of submission for ongoing programs. Use the most recent data available from within the three years prior to the anticipated date of submission to report the number of students served by each program, the number of student educators, and the total number of enrolled students.

Sampling and Data Standards

Part 1

Include, at minimum, all students enrolled for credit (undergraduate and graduate). Continuing education students, non-credit students, and other students who are not recognized by the institution as seeking a degree, certificate, or other formal award and students who are exclusively enrolled in distance education programs may be excluded.

Part 2

Institutions may report the total number of student educators trained in a given year, a representative snapshot, or an average from throughout the period.

If the actual number of hours worked is not tracked directly, the total number of hours worked annually may be estimated by multiplying the number of trained educators × the average or expected number of hours worked weekly × the number of weeks educators are active.

Standards and Terms

Peer-to-peer education

Consistent with the My-Peer Toolkit hosted by Curtin University:

A peer is an individual who is of equal standing with another and who belongs to a specific societal group, sharing distinct characteristics with this group.

There is no power imbalance within a peer relationship (e.g., as there would be in a faculty-student or manager-worker relationship).

Peer-to-peer outreach and education programs train members of specific social groups or networks (e.g., students or workers) to become “experts” in a certain topic. These individuals then become peer educators who share what they have learned with other members of the same group to catalyze change. Peer education is based on the understanding that people make changes not only based on what they know, but also on the opinions and actions of close trusted peers.

Students enrolled for credit

Consistent with U.S. IPEDS, students enrolled for credit include all students enrolled in courses or programs that can be applied towards the requirements for a postsecondary degree, diploma, certificate, or other formal award, regardless of whether or not they are seeking a degree or certificate. This includes:

- Students enrolled for credit in off-campus centers
- High school students taking regular college courses for credit
- Students taking remedial courses if the student is degree-seeking for the purpose of student financial aid determination
- Students from overseas enrolled in U.S. courses for credit (e.g., online students)
- Graduate students enrolled for thesis credits, even when zero credits are awarded as these students are still enrolled and seeking their degree.

Scoring Example: Student Educators Program

Example University enrolls 5,000 students. The university has two peer-to-peer outreach programs for which the institution selects students to serve as educators, offers a formal designation or title to the student educators, provides formal training to the educators in how to conduct sustainability outreach, and dedicates staff time to coordinating the programs.

- 1) Example University's Eco-Reps Program trains volunteer representatives in residence halls. All residence halls at Example University participate in the Eco-Reps Program and house at least one Eco-Rep. This program includes 20 student educators and serves 2,000 students (the residential population). Educators are expected to work four hours per week over an 36-week period.
- 2) Example University's School of Law has a team of 5 Student Sustainability Ambassadors who are paid a stipend and tasked with conducting sustainability outreach and training to fellow law students. All 500 students at the law school are served by this program. Educators are expected to work four hours per week over an 36-week period.

The remainder of the university's students are not served (i.e., directly targeted) by the program.

Part 1

Total number of students served by a peer-to-peer outreach program = 2,000 + 500 = 2,500

Factor		Number of students served by a peer-to-peer outreach and education program		Total number of students enrolled for credit		Points earned for Part 1
2	×	<u>2,500</u>	÷	<u>5,000</u>	=	1

Part 2

Total number of hours worked annually by trained student sustainability educators = (20 × 4 × 36) + (5 × 4 × 36) = 3,600

Factor		Grand total number of hours worked annually by trained student sustainability educators		Total number of students served by a peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program		Points earned for Part 2
2	×	<u>3,600</u>	÷	<u>2,500</u>	=	2