NEW JERSEY
Safe Routes to School

www.saferoutesnj.org

NJ Safe Routes to School Resource Center
SRTS Recognition Program and Levels
NJ SRTS Recognition Program

- Offered once per year: January 31\textsuperscript{st}
- Participants must be active in SRTS activities to remain at their existing Recognition Level.
- Program recognition lasts for 3 years. After 3 years schools and municipalities must reapply for recognition.
- SRTS Program Winners from 2013 (inaugural year) will expire in 2016 so will have to re-apply by January 31, 2016.
The NJ SRTS Recognition Program keeps growing each year!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Step</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>129</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% Increase</strong></td>
<td><strong>44.9%</strong></td>
<td><strong>53.4%</strong></td>
<td><strong>--</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Why Join the Recognition Program?

Recognition with the NJ SRTS helps schools and municipalities achieve a sustainable SRTS program.

Benefits of the SRTS Recognition Program:

- Receive access to technical assistance from New Jersey SRTS Regional Coordinators.
- Promote and encourage safe walking and biking to school for students in their communities leading to healthier, happier students.
- Gain recognition both locally and statewide for efforts towards enhancing and promoting SRTS.
- Earn Sustainable Jersey points for their municipality.
- Earn Sustainable Jersey for Schools points for their school or district.
- Earn points for SRTS Infrastructure grant applications.
Changes to the NJ SRTS Recognition Program:
- Separate requirements/criteria for municipalities and for schools
- Requirements/criteria for municipalities and schools have changed at each level (except First Step).

Municipality

School or School District
FIRST STEP (Entry Level):

1. Complete an online enrollment form including basic school contact information.

2. Identify a Safe Routes to School champion who will start building a SRTS team (Principal, teacher, parent, member of School Wellness Council, member of School Green Team, etc.).
NJ SRTS Recognition Level: Schools

**BRONZE LEVEL**: Must meet First Step Requirements

1. Endorsement/Support letter or Resolution of Support from BOE, Superintendent or equivalent body.

2. Hold at least **TWO** pedestrian or bike safety programs within **12 months** of submission date such as:
   - iWalk/Walk/Bike to School Day
   - Bike Train/Clinic/Rodeo
   - Bike or pedestrian safety education event
   - Mileage club or contest
   - Poster/bookmark contest

3. Implement **ONE** active transportation best practice within **3 years** of submission date (and must still be in place) such as:
   - Bike parking/storage
   - Remote Drop-off/Pick-up locations
   - Staggered Dismissal
   - Safe Routes to Bus Stops
   - Walking Club for staff/ rewards for staff that walk or bike to school

*Completion of Bronze level can earn 10 points towards Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification.*
SILVER LEVEL:

1. Meet Bronze level requirements

2. Complete at least **ONE** of the following requirements:
   
a) Walkability or Bikeability Assessment around the school within **3 years** of submission date.

b) School-wide Student Travel Mode Tallies **within 2 years** of submission date.

c) Ongoing year-round active travel program (Walking Wednesdays, Walking School Bus, etc.)

d) Complete **two** SRTS activities such as the following:
   
   • Pedestrian or bicycle safety programs  **OR**
   
   • Transportation best practices (e.g. remote pick up/drop off, sta Safe Routes to bus stops, bike parking)
NJ SRTS Recognition Levels: Schools

GOLD LEVEL:

1. Meet Silver level requirements
2. Show ongoing support from PTA, PTO, School Green team, School Wellness Council, etc.
3. Complete **ONE** of the following:
   a) School Travel Plan which includes all 6 components
      *This requirement is also an action which earns 10 points toward Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification*
   b) Adopt a SRTS District Policy supporting active travel to school.
      *This requirement is also an action which earns 10 points toward Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification*
   c) Innovative bike/walk to school project of your choice, subject to approval.
What is Ongoing Support?

At the Gold level, an organization — PTA, PTO, School Green Team, School Wellness Council, etc. — must support the program. The organization must provide a letter with a description of their ongoing support of the SRTS program and how the program will continue into the future.

The supporting organization should include in a letter:

- How they have supported the program in the past.
- How they intend to sustain and grow the program in the future.
- How and what they have financed for the program and will finance in the future.
- How and what others have financed for the program and will finance in the future.
- Any ongoing partnerships that help sustain the program.
- Any future partnerships that will help sustain the program.
NJ SRTS Recognition Program

Sustainable Jersey for Schools
**Harmonizing SRTS Recognition Program for Schools and Sustainable Jersey**

**NJ SRTS Recognition Program requirements/criteria for Schools can earn points toward Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SRTS Recognition Requirements</th>
<th>Sustainable Jersey Recognition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two SRTS events and one active transportation best practice – toward Bronze Recognition</td>
<td>10 points toward school for Pedestrian &amp; Bicycle Safety and Promotion Initiatives action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Travel Plan -- toward Gold Recognition</td>
<td>10 points for school toward School Travel Plan for Walking and Bicycling action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopt SRTS/Active Transportation School District Policy - toward Gold Recognition</td>
<td>10 points for the school district toward SRTS District Policy action.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Details][1]

---

For more information, visit [www.saferoutesnj.org](http://www.saferoutesnj.org).
Harmonizing SRTS Recognition Program for Schools and Sustainable Jersey for Schools

**NJ SRTS Recognition Program requirements/criteria for Schools can earn points toward Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>NEW JERSEY Safe Routes to School</strong></th>
<th><strong>FOR SCHOOLS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.saferoutesnj.org">www.saferoutesnj.org</a></td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| • Show ongoing support from PTA, PTO, School Green team, School Wellness Council, etc. – towards Gold Recognition | • Establishing a School Green Team is required for registering for the program |
| • 10 points toward school for School Wellness Council action | |
FIRST STEP (Entry Level):

1. Complete an online enrollment form which includes basic municipal contact information.

2. Identify a Safe Routes to School champion who will start building a SRTS team (Mayor, Council, municipal staff member, municipal green team member, etc.).
NJ SRTS Recognition Level: Municipalities

BRONZE LEVEL:

1. Meet First Step Requirements
2. Endorsement/Support letter or Resolution of Support from Mayor, Council or equivalent body
3. Complete **ONE** of the following:
   a) Implement at least **2** SRTS events or activities (Walk/Bike to School, Bike Rodeo, etc.) **within 12 months** of the submission date by either:
      (1) managing or leading the event, or
      (2) providing staff (police officers, municipal staff, etc.) or
      (3) performing significant outreach for the event (newsletters, fliers, emails, etc. – not just posting on website)
   b) Complete a Post Observation Report for the top 5 busiest Crossing Guard locations (high traffic volumes, high volumes of pedestrian crossings, intersections of concern, etc.)
   b) Implement an innovative SRTS project, subject to approval.
NJ SRTS Recognition Levels: Municipalities

SILVER LEVEL:

1. Meet Bronze level requirements

2. Complete at least **ONE** of the following requirements:

   - Annual training of all Crossing Guards including new Crossing Guards AND re-training of all returning Crossing Guards.
   - Implement a total of **6** SRTS events or activities (or incremental 4 events if completed 2 events for Bronze certification) **within 2 years** of the submission date by either:
     (1) managing or leading the event,
     (2) providing staff (police officers, municipal staff, etc.) or
     (3) performing significant outreach for the event (newsletters, fliers, emails, etc.)
   - Implement an innovative SRTS project, subject to approval.

*Silver level recognition also earns 10 points for the Sustainable Jersey SRTS Action.*
GOLD LEVEL:

1. Meet Silver level requirements
2. Show ongoing support from Borough Council, Borough Administration, Borough Green Team, etc.
3. Adopt Complete Streets Policy – must meet minimum standards
4. Complete **ONE** of the following:
   a) Active participant and team member in a School Travel Plan which includes all 6 components
   b) Inclusion of a comprehensive municipal Crossing Guard Policy which **must** include the following sections:
      (1) Training
      (2) Re-Training
      (3) Uniform and Equipment
   c) Innovative bike/walk to school project of your choice, subject to approval.
Adopt Complete Streets Policy

At **minimum**, include the following basic elements:

- Specify that “all users” include pedestrians, bicyclists, transit vehicle users and motorists, of all ages and abilities.
- Commit to create a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal transportation network within the community.
- Recognize the need for flexibility and that all streets are different, and user needs must be balanced and fit into the context of the community.
- Apply to both new and retrofitted projects, including design, planning, construction, maintenance, and operations, for the entire right-of-way.
- Allow exceptions to the policy to be contingent upon the presence of specific safety concerns and set a clear procedure that requires high-level approval prior to granting exceptions.

**Adopting a Complete Streets Policy that meets these criteria can earn 10 points toward Sustainable Jersey certification.**
Harmonizing SRTS Recognition Program for Municipalities and Sustainable Jersey

**NJ SRTS Recognition Program requirements/criteria for Municipalities can earn points toward Sustainable Jersey certification!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Silver level recognition for Municipality</th>
<th>10 points for municipality toward the SRTS action.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Silver level recognition for Municipality</td>
<td>• 10 points for municipality toward the SRTS action.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt Complete Streets -- toward Gold Recognition</th>
<th>10 points for municipality toward the Adopt Complete Streets action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Adopt Complete Streets -- toward Gold Recognition</td>
<td>• 10 points for municipality toward the Adopt Complete Streets action</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recognizing Participants

Participants of the NJ SRTS Recognition Program will receive:

- Technical assistance with events, activities and education from New Jersey SRTS Regional Coordinators—all levels
- Listing on the NJ SRTS website and home page slider —all levels
- Included in a Safe Routes Scoop article—all levels
- VTC will provide a press release template for Regional Coordinators to announce recipients to local press—all levels
- Certificate of Recognition – awarded by the Regional Coordinator at a presentation (i.e. Board, Council, PTA meeting, etc.) for Bronze, Silver and Gold level recipients.
Regional Coordinators help complete online application forms and document events. Application deadline is **January 31**.

VTC reviews applications and sends to NJDOT for approval.

NJ SRTS announces recognition level winners, posts on NJ SRTS website, and includes in Safe Routes Scoop article – late March/early April.

Regional Coordinators distribute local press release and award certificate at respective meeting – annual breakfast, etc.
Online Application Form

- All applications for SRTS Recognition must be made online through njsaferoutes.org by January 31, 2016.

- Regional Coordinators will continue to assist schools and municipalities with completing their online applications.

- Online application includes attaching all supporting documentation! One stop application process! (Be sure to include “Applicant Name” on the respective Supporting Documentation Submission!)
Thank you for your support of the program!

Any questions, please contact:

Trish Sanchez  trish.sanchez@rutgers.edu
Sean Meehan  smeehan@ejb.rutgers.edu