NEW JERSEY
Safe Routes to School

www.saferoutesnj.org

NJ Safe Routes to School Recognition Program and Sustainable Jersey Programs
• Offered once per year: January 31st
• Participants must be active in SRTS activities to remain at their existing Recognition Level.
• Program recognition certification lasts for 3 years. After 3 years, schools and municipalities must reapply for recognition.
• SRTS Program Winners from 2015 who have not upgraded or renewed will expire in 2018 so will have to re-qualify and re-apply by January 31, 2018.
The NJ SRTS Recognition Program keeps growing each year!

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Step</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Increase</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>53%</td>
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Recognition with the NJ SRTS helps schools and municipalities achieve a sustainable SRTS program.

Benefits of the SRTS Recognition Program:

- 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.
Separate requirements/criteria for municipalities and for schools
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 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

**Completion of Bronze level can earn 10 points towards Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification.**
NJ SRTS Recognition Levels: Schools

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
      • Walk/bike to school events
      • Bike rodeo
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.
Ongoing Support at Gold Level

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.
For a project to be considered innovative, it should be:

- Something new or a new approach to an existing program.
- School/Community led and/or involve a new/unique partnership(s).
- A project that is not outlined elsewhere in the NJ SRTS Program.
- Example: New Brunswick Schools Dads Walk to School Day – With several elementary schools, this involved not only a coordinated walk to school but partnerships with City’s Fatherhood Council and RWJ to provide healthy breakfast, give aways, programming and services.

All projects subject to NJDOT Approval.
NJ SRTS Recognition Program requirements/criteria for Schools can earn points toward Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Points/Towards</th>
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</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>
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NJ SRTS Recognition Program for Schools and Sustainable Jersey for Schools

www.saferoutesnj.org
### NJ 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>Requirements</th>
<th>Points Toward Gold Recognition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Show ongoing support from PTA, PTO, School Green team, School Wellness Council, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establishing a School Green Team is required for registering for the program</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10 points toward school for School Wellness Council action</td>
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</table>
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.
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.*
NJ SRTS Recognition Levels: Municipalities

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, subject to approval.
      Example: Summer-wide “Caught being good” program – Police rewarded kids with gift certificates to local businesses for wearing helmets, using crosswalks, etc.
Adopt Complete Streets Policy

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

a) State an intent to plan, design, build and maintain all roads to meet needs of all users.

b) Specify that “all users” include pedestrians, bicyclists, transit vehicle users and motorists, of all ages and abilities.

c) Commit to create a comprehensive, integrated, connected multi-modal transportation network within the community.

d) 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.
At minimum, include the following basic elements (continued):

e) Apply to both new and retrofitted projects, including design, planning, construction, maintenance, and operations, for the entire right-of-way.

f) 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.

e) The implementation section of the policy must articulate the intent of the community to consider public health during planning and design phases.

e) Include the potential health benefits of complete streets:
“Whereas, complete streets have the potential for improving physical and mental health either directly or indirectly in the following ways…”
Complete policy language available on sustainablejersey.com.

Adopting a Complete Streets Policy that meets these criteria can earn 10 points toward Sustainable Jersey certification.
### NJ 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 points for municipality toward the SRTS action.</td>
<td>10 points for municipality toward the Adopt Complete Streets action</td>
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</table>

- Silver level recognition for Municipality
- Adopt Complete Streets -- toward Gold Recognition

[Link to website: www.saferoutesnj.org]
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
- 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 supporting documentation and sends to NJDOT for approval. **February/March**

NJ SRTS announces recognition level winners, posts on NJ SRTS website, and includes in Safe Routes Scoop article – **April/May**

Regional Coordinators distribute local press release and award certificate at respective meeting – annual breakfast, etc. – **TMA Annual Meeting**
All applications for SRTS Recognition must be made online through njsaferoutes.org by January 31, 2018.

Online application includes attaching all supporting documentation using Qualtrics. 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:
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Sean Meehan  smeehan@ejb.rutgers.edu