The Education Facility Clearinghouse
Request for Research Proposals

The Education Facility Clearinghouse program (EFC) was awarded to the Graduate School of Education and Human Development at the George Washington University by the U. S. Department of Education on October 1, 2013.

EFC Priorities

To collect and disseminate research and other information on effective practices regarding the planning, design, financing, procurement, construction, improvement, operation, and maintenance of safe, healthy, and high-performing facilities for early learning programs, K-12 LEAs and individual schools, and institutions of higher education:

1. Help education stakeholders increase their use of education facilities to turn around low-performing schools and close academic achievement gaps;
2. Increase understanding of how education facilities affect community health and safety and student achievement;
3. Identify potential cost-saving opportunities through procurement, energy efficiency, and preventative maintenance;
4. Increase the use of education facilities and outdoor spaces such as instructional tools and community centers (e.g., outdoor classrooms, school gardens, school-based health centers); and,
5. Increase capacity to identify hazards and conduct vulnerability assessments, and, through facility design, increase safety against hazards, natural disasters, and intruders.

The EFC is looking for original work to include articles from primary research, white papers, and literature reviews in any of the areas discussed above, especially in the areas of

1. Inequality in school facilities
2. Facilities and health
3. Facilities and communities
4. Facilities and behavior
5. Facility design and school safety

These five topics may be exhibited by research that will assist early learning programs, K-12 LEAs and individual schools, and institutions of higher education by

1. Helping education stakeholders increase their use of education facilities to turn around low-performing schools and close academic achievement gaps;
2. Increasing the understanding of how education facilities affect community health and safety and student achievement;
3. Identifying potential cost-saving opportunities through procurement, energy efficiency, and preventative maintenance;
4. Increasing the use of education facilities and outdoor spaces as instructional tools and community centers (e.g., outdoor classrooms, school gardens, school-based health centers); and
5. Increasing capacity to identify hazards and conduct vulnerability assessments, and, through facility design, increase safety against hazards, natural disasters, and intruders.

**Design Requirements for Proposal** (maximum 4 pages in length)

1. Statement of the problem
2. Significance of the problem/study
3. Purpose and research questions
4. Conceptual/theoretical framework
5. Summary of the methodology
6. Definitions of key terms

**Deliverables of Research Project**

1. Data from the research.
2. Written analysis of the research in the form of a research paper.

**Estimated Project Duration**

Duration varies widely based on the type of the research project; however, all deadlines are final, unless there are special arrangements made with the EFC. It is likely that most projects will last from two to five months.

**Assumptions and Agreements**

1. All projects and the written articles ensuing from the research data become the property of the Education Facilities Clearinghouse (EFC) and the USDOE.
2. Any written material derived from the research may be reported on the EFC Website or in documents that the Clearinghouse produces.
3. The Clearinghouse reserves the right to terminate the agreement for any reason.
4. All funding is contingent on the continued funding of the USDOE to the EFC.
5. The scope of the project will guide the award amount. Final cost of the research will be determined at the time of the approval of the proposal.
6. Payment for the research will be provided in two separate payments: One fourth of the negotiated amount will be paid at the time the data collection is complete; the second and final payment will be when the final paper is accepted.
7. The researchers(s) will be responsible for attaining IRB approval at their respective institutions.

**Basis for Award**

The researcher(s) must have demonstrated

1. a prolific and sustained body of research,
2. a focused and productive research career in an area of interest of the EFC, and
3. quality and consistency of work over time and research independence.
4. The research proposal must meet the content priorities and requirements of the EFC.
Publication Guidelines

Manuscript Guidelines

1. Submit a Word document, double spaced, 12 font (Times New Roman or Arial)
3. Include a cover sheet containing:
   - Author’s name
   - Institutional affiliation
   - Address
   - Telephone
   - Email Address
   - Brief Biography (About 100 words)
4. Length of the paper varies depending on the research
5. Changes/Edits to the manuscript will be sent to the author prior to publishing and must be returned to EFC in a timely manner.

Review Process

- Two editors will read each submittal.
- The submittal may be accepted, accepted with edits, or rejected.
- Estimated timeframe for review process is 14 days.

Submit All Questions and Documents to:

Dr. G. Victor Hellman or Dr. Linda K. Lemasters
askefc@gwu.edu