



Global Schools Program

Global Schools Advocate Application FAQ

Please read the following questions before submitting your application to be a Global Schools Advocate. If you have further questions that are not addressed, please feel free to contact the Global Schools Team at globalschools@unsdsn.org.

Application Questions:

1. *Can anyone apply to be an Advocate?*

Teachers who meet the following criteria are encouraged to apply:

- Possess a good command of the English language.
- Be employed at a primary or secondary school for the duration of the Advocate mandate (August 2021-January 2022). Teachers working through fellowship programs at primary and secondary schools (i.e. Fulbright, UN Volunteers, Peace Corps) are also eligible. Those employed at Teacher training colleges, universities, or post-secondary institutions are not eligible. If you plan on switching careers or going back to university during this period, you are also not eligible.
- Commit to the vision of the program and comply with the standards and level of professionalism set by Global Schools.
- Be able to commit a minimum of 5 hours per week for this role.
- Be absolutely self-driven, accountable, and responsible for meeting his/her goals.
- Be self-driven and able to communicate effectively with school leadership and other teachers.

2. *What if my level of English isn't excellent?*

We ask for an excellent command of English because our training is in English (videos, readings, assessments) and the resources we offer schools are in English. However, our lesson plans have been translated into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, and Standard Chinese. While you must have an excellent command of English, you will be able to utilize these resources if your school community teaches lessons in one of these languages.

3. *When is the application deadline?*

Applications will close at **11:59pm EST on Wednesday, July 14th.**

4. *When will I find out if I have been accepted into the Advocate program?*

Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by the beginning of August.



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Organizational Questions:

1. What is SDSN?

The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) has been operating since 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General (it is NOT part of the UN but reports to the office of the Secretary General). SDSN mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement. We aim to accelerate joint learning and promote integrated approaches that address the interconnected economic, social, and environmental challenges confronting the world. SDSN works closely with United Nations agencies, multilateral financing institutions, the private sector, and civil society. For more information please visit: <http://unsdsn.org/>

2. What is the Global Schools Program?

The mission of Global Schools is simple; provide the necessary tools and resources for schools and teachers to educate their students on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In working with educators, the program aims to transform learning environments globally and make schools the hubs of education and leadership on the SDGs, ultimately empowering students to prioritize sustainable development in their lifestyles, behaviours, education and professional careers. The Global Schools Program is an initiative led by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network - Youth Initiative (SDSN Youth) in support of UNESCO's Global Action Program on Education for Sustainable Development (GAP-ESD). For more information please visit: <https://www.globalschoolsprogram.org/>

Advocate Program Questions:

1. What are the actual duties and responsibilities of the Advocates?

The Advocates will participate in a one-month online training program, so they will have to watch videos, read articles, and complete quizzes and assignments online. Once applicants have passed the course, by completing all online modules, they will serve as official Advocates. The course is expected to take around 4 hours to complete.

Afterward, Advocates will lead the implementation of the Global Schools Program in their communities. Advocates will be tasked with spreading awareness on education on the SDGs and empowering schools and teachers to educate children on the SDGs. They will serve as primary points of contact to local stakeholders who wish to learn more about Global Schools, the SDGs and ESD concepts and will report and communicate about their activities.



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2. What are the utmost goals of an Advocate?

The Advocates serve as champions of the Global Schools Program locally and have the mission of coordinating local efforts to empower schools and teachers to educate children on sustainable development, global citizenship, and 21st-century skills.

3. What is the duration of the advocacy program?

The Advocates program will run from **August 2021 to January 2022**. Advocates will have the option to graduate in January or extend their term.

4. Is the program flexible?

Yes. The program is very flexible. After completing the training, Advocates will have the creativity to develop an activity on the SDGs that will best meet the needs of their local school and community. Which days/time of the week you choose to devote to your Advocacy duties, as well as what you work on each week is largely up to you.

However, one thing that we require is that you carry out an ESD workshop for your department, school, or community. The purpose of this workshop is to share the importance of ESD to your school community and to inspire other teachers to join you on your journey to integrate ESD in your school community. By the end, you should have identified your community and school values, fellow teachers that can support you, and how to take action. You will be provided with resources and materials for this workshop.

5. How will Advocates report on their work?

Every month Advocates will be asked to report on their work and progress through an online Key Performance Indicator (KPI) form and through other live engagements with the Global Schools Leadership Team.

6. How will the Global Schools Team support me through my Advocate Journey?

The Advocacy team will try our best to support you so that you can thrive while carrying out your role. Some of the ways that we can support you include:

- Providing resources such as the training course, Advocates Toolkit, lesson plans, Activities Guides, and additional reading and materials.
- Providing advice and guidance, including discussing, evaluating and troubleshooting ideas for projects within your schools.
- Facilitating collaboration with other Advocates in different countries and regions.
- Informing you of professional development opportunities like webinars, conferences and trainings on ESD and the SDGs.



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- Being available by email for questions and feedback. We will respond within 48 hours.
- Providing opportunities for mentorship within the Advocates alumni network.

Unfortunately, there are some things that we cannot assist you with. Some of these things include:

- Assistance with providing internet connectivity and data.
- Financial support to cover program materials like laptops, cell phones, or textbooks.
- In-person exchange programs between countries.
- Consideration for future jobs with the Global Schools Program.
- Financial support for students.
- Networking with local education authority.

Other Questions:

1. Will the Advocates get to know each other and network?

Yes, there will be opportunities for the Advocates to virtually network and get to know each other once they finish the Advocates training. The primary platform for this will be an Advocate Facebook page. We encourage Advocates to collaborate with each other.

2. Are there any financial incentives for completing the program?

Unfortunately no, **there will not be any financial incentives to the Advocates at this point in time.** We cannot provide compensation for completing the training, distribute internet data packages, or provide resources like laptops, cell phones or textbooks. However, if you come across any local grants or fundraising opportunities that could benefit you as an Advocate, please let the Global Schools Team know, and we will try to assist you to the best of our ability.

3. Are there career progression opportunities available?

Being a Global Schools Teacher Advocate doesn't offer any permanent or temporary career opportunities, but volunteering with the Global Schools Program will be a great learning experience to further the applicant's career ambitions. Every month, we will also be running a variety of professional development webinars that we will encourage you to attend.

4. What web tools would you recommend using?

Upon completion of the training course, the Advocates will receive a Toolkit explaining the tools that Advocates can use. Advocates are also free to implement innovative ideas/tools to localize content provided by the Global Schools Program.



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5. *Is there any possibility of international trips?*

No, the Global Schools Teacher Advocates Program doesn't offer any international trips, but the team will share prospective opportunities that relate with SDGs and ESD, which you can look into individually.

6. *Is there a contact person in case I have questions?*

Yes, if you have any questions please feel free to contact the Global Schools Team at globalschools@unsdsn.org. We will always do our best to respond to your questions within 48 hours.