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School Indoor Air Quality Grant Program Overview

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Program timeline

June-July '20

VT Leg passed School Indoor Air Quality Program with an initial \$6.5m funding allocation.

Governor Scott enacted the Program on July 1.

July-Aug. '20

Efficiency Vermont launched the program and began accepting school intakes on July 8.

By September 15, over 300 schools were enrolled in the program.

Sept.-Nov. '20

The Legislature allocated an additional \$11.5m to the Program in two separate acts.

Dec. '20-Jan '21

\$16.3m was allocated to schools by the end of the year.

Efficiency Vermont continues to process invoice reimbursements.

Program components

1

Program design

Efficiency Vermont designed a three-step process for intake, scoping, and reimbursement.

2

Technical guidance

Efficiency Vermont worked with school administrators, facility managers, and health and HVAC experts to distill the CDC & ASHRAE indoor air quality specifications into digestible guidance for schools and their contracted partners.

3

Ongoing support

In addition to the original guidance, Efficiency Vermont hosted regular webinars for school administrators and facilities managers. Also provided 1:1 support for all eligible schools and their contractors throughout the program.

Sample project overview



Assessment

The school hired an HVAC professional to assess condition of the existing HVAC system and complete air flow testing throughout the building. This assessment identified opportunities for improvement.



Scope of work

Using the assessment, an HVAC contractor, facilities manager, and Efficiency Vermont engineer developed a scope of work that delivered the most impact within the constraints of time and resource availability. This included upgrading existing equipment, improving building controls, creating an isolation space, and installing new filters throughout the system.



Project Completion

The school hired multiple specialized HVAC and controls contractors and tradespeople to implement the approved scope of work in phases as equipment was delivered and contractors were available. Verifying completion of approved scope, school submitted invoices to Efficiency Vermont for reimbursement.

Impact by the numbers

314 schools

Three out of every four eligible schools in the state participated.

Over 62,000

K-12 students that will now attend schools with improved HVAC systems.

Over 6,500

K-12 teachers that will now teach at schools with improved HVAC systems.

Nearly 13m ft²

Space in VT schools with improved ventilation and/or filtration.

40 schools

Buildings that previously had no ventilation systems that can now bring fresh outside air into the building for the first time.

140 companies

Contracted engineers and tradespeople who worked on projects at the 314 schools, which together employ hundreds of Vermonters.

Questions?

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