What are Environmental Finance Centers?

EPA supports a network of eight environmental finance centers (EFCs) located across the country. EFCs are university-based organizations that provide innovative solutions to communities to help manage the costs of environmental protection programs and activities. EPA leverages funding provided through its grant program, which combines with other non-EPA funding sources to support the various EFCs. EFCs provide government officials and small businesses with a number of services, including:

- Analyses on environmental financing alternatives
- Technical assistance
- Education through short courses for state and local officials and graduate courses through traditional university curricula
- Development and publication of case studies about innovative financing techniques
- Serving as clearinghouses for regional and state information on environmental financing and program management
- Outreach services such as financial management tools, training courses, lecture series, or education for communities and relevant stakeholders about financing issues

WEB: www2.epa.gov/envirofinance/efcn

EMAIL: ocfinfo@epa.gov

EPA’s Center for Environmental Finance within the Office of the Chief Financial Officer manages the cooperative agreement with the EFCs.

What is Environmental Finance?

Knowledge about how to fund environmental programs is often limited. But financing mechanisms are essential to successfully implementing environmental programs at local, state, and federal levels. There is a significant need to educate public officials, currently on the front lines of financing environmental facilities and services, about options and tools available to help them meet their regulatory requirements and individual program goals.

Locations of Environmental Finance Centers Currently Serving 7 of EPA’s 10 Regions

- **Serving EPA Region 1**
  University of Southern Maine
  Jack Kartez, Director
tel: (207) 780-5389
  jack@usm.maine.edu

- **Serving EPA Region 2**
  Syracuse Center of Excellence in Environmental and Energy Systems
  Mark Lichtenstein, Director
tel: (315) 443-5678
  mlichtenstein@syracusecoe.org

- **Serving EPA Region 3**
  University of Maryland
  Joanne Throwe, Director
tel: (301) 405-5036
  jthrowe@umd.edu

- **Serving EPA Region 4**
  University of Louisville
  Lauren Heberle, PhD, Director
tel: (502) 852-4749
  lauren.heberle@louisville.edu

- **Serving EPA Region 4**
  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
  Jeff Hughes, Director
tel: (919) 843-4956
  jhughes@unc.edu

- **Serving EPA Region 5**
  Cleveland State University
  Stuart Mendel, Interim Executive Director
tel: (216) 687-6908
  s.mendel@csuohio.edu

- **Serving EPA Region 6**
  University of Louisville
  Lauren Heberle, PhD, Director
tel: (502) 852-4749
  lauren.heberle@louisville.edu

- **Serving EPA Region 7**
  Wichita State University
  Angela Buzard, Director
tel: (316) 978-3401
  angela.buzard@wichita.edu

- **Serving EPA Region 8**
  Dominican University of California
  Sarah Diefendorf, Director
tel: (415) 494-5422
  sdief1@gmail.com

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