

Zero Waste Schools Program experts will help you take the following steps to become a certified Zero Waste School:



Stakeholder Meeting

Meeting with main stakeholders to explain program, review current campus system, and plan next steps.



Pre-Program Waste Audit

Work with custodian to identify main waste-generating areas and conduct an audit of trash, recycling, and compost bins.



Results Presentation

Present waste audit results at a staff meeting, and review program rollout with all staff.



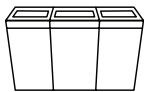
Adult-Level Training

Ensure teachers, custodian, lunchtime staff, and paraprofessionals are all trained on sorting and new program systems.



Student Education

At an assembly, introduce students to the program. Return to go to each classroom for a more in-depth training, and to set up the new color-coded classroom bins.



Infrastructure Rollout

Deliver classroom bins, bathroom Slim Jims, staff room bins, and waste stations, as applicable.



Ongoing Education

Start or continue a Green Team of students that will support lunchtime sorting and create posters, videos, and educational materials to remind peers of zero waste.



Waste Audit + Follow Up

Conduct a new waste audit and compare data. Complete a Certification checklist and determine if trash service levels can be decreased.



Overview of California State Laws

Waste Laws That Apply to Schools



AB 341 - Mandatory Recycling

Passed in 2012, this law requires commercial sites (including schools) that generate more than 4 cubic yards of combined material per week to have a recycling system.



AB 1826 - Mandatory Composting

Passed in 2016, this law requires commercial sites (including schools) that generate more than 2 cubic yards of combined material to recover organic material such as food scraps and yard trimmings.



SB 1383 - Climate Pollutants & Organics

Aimed at reducing methane, a powerful heat-trapping gas contributing to climate change, this law requires all residents and businesses in the state to keep organic material out of landfill. Some sites will also need to donate leftover edible food.