



Earth to Sky Academy 2022 – Course Announcement

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt MD

Date: October 17–21, 2022

A tuition-free course for interpreters, informal educators, and science communicators interested in creating and nurturing regional communities of practice focused on improving climate science communication.

About Earth to Sky <https://www.earthtosky.org>

The Earth to Sky Partnership nurtures and supports a growing community of interpreters, educators and scientists learning and sharing climate science and communication techniques. Our community develops interpretive and educational products and programs for use in refuges, parks and other place-based education sites. Membership is free and provides access to our professional development, archives, and valuable resources for effective science communication. Earth to Sky is funded by NASA’s Earth Science Division.

About the Earth to Sky Academy

Earth to Sky (ETS) is developing [regional communities of practice in climate communication](#), each of which is led by a Regional Leadership Team trained and mentored by ETS. The purpose of the Academy is to train these teams to conduct Regional Courses using the proven successful ETS methodology and to nurture a regional community of practice of climate communicators.

Participants apply as teams of 3–5 individuals who have self-selected the geographic extent and primary audience for their region. Each team reflects a breadth of expertise drawn from a variety of agencies and organizations.



Course Goals

Earth to Sky Academies create a network of ETS Regional Leaders who will:

- Catalyze, nurture, and sustain a regional community of practice of climate science communicators.
- Develop and conduct effective ETS professional development events in their region.
- Participate in the ETS Regional Leaders Network to further the mission of ETS.

Course Structure

The Academy emphasizes experiential, collaborative learning in a collegial environment. The course provides opportunities to engage with scientists and communication colleagues; dedicated project time; and tools and support for hosting a Regional Course and nurturing a community of practice for effective science communication. There will be 4-6 hours of assigned pre-work to be completed prior to class start date, as well as several virtual meetings.

Academy topics include:

- Basic principles of effective adult education methodology
- Best practices in professional development reflected in the ETS training methodology
- Foundational climate science, including an introduction to Earth System Science as a contextual framework for climate science
- Tips on how to access NASA science, educational content, and expertise

Benefits of Participation

- Professional growth as a leader in interpretation
- Development of a community of climate science communicators/interpreters in your region
- Increased confidence and understanding of climate science and effective communication
- Increased confidence and skill in effective professional development methodology
- Access to and updates on NASA science, scientists, outreach specialists, and resources
- Guidebook with detailed tools, templates, checklists, and timelines for an ETS course
- Leave course with a plan and supporting resources to host an ETS Regional Course
- Participate in Regional Leaders network who support one another in course planning and community engagement
- Ongoing mentoring and infrastructure support from ETS Leadership
- Letter of appreciation to supervisor
- Certificate of completion



Who Should Apply?

Experienced informal educators and climate communication leaders (interpreters, education specialists, etc.) from the private or public sector, who have a strong commitment to furthering climate literacy among educators within their respective regions.

Applicants must apply and attend as a team of 3 to 5 partners/collaborators from various agencies, non-profits, museums, learning centers, etc. At least one member of the team must have attended a previous ETS training event (course, mini-course, or workshop). If you need assistance connecting with those in your region, contact ETS Lead Geneviève de Messières.

Participant Commitments

Upon successful completion of all Academy coursework, graduates will be designated Earth to Sky Regional Leaders. Regional leaders are expected to:

- Conduct a regional climate science and communication course using ETS methodology within two years of graduation.
- Build, nurture, and sustain a regional community of practice
- Participate in the ETS Regional Leaders Network to further the mission of ETS.

Earth to Sky National Team Commitments

The ETS National Leadership Team is responsible for developing and leading the Academy and for supporting Regional Leaders in their ETS Regional Course development. ETS Leadership will:

- Pending budget confirmation, provide seed funding to help non-federal Regional Leaders host ETS courses
- Continue to mentor Regional Leaders and assist them with project management
- Cover their own travel expenses to attend and support Regional Courses
- Assist with recruitment and mentoring of Regional Course coaches
- Provide infrastructure (course website, webinar infrastructure, evaluation tools, etc.)
- Assist in identifying and recruiting NASA science presenters based upon Regional Course objectives and content needs
- Provide and analyze results from standardized evaluation instruments for Regional Courses
- Facilitate opportunities for Regional Leaders to continue to learn and collaborate with one another via the ETS Regional Leaders Network

How to Apply

Application Deadline: March 31, 2022

[Download application form and supervisory support letter](#) and read frequent questions.

You can also view updates at that site and sign up to receive notifications.

Submit only one application package for your entire team.

No tuition. Travel expenses are the responsibility of participants and/or their institutions. However, pending budget confirmation, travel support is available from Earth to Sky on a needs basis.

Learn more: Informational webinar on February 28, 2022

Join us for an overview of the Academy, the perspective of an Earth to Sky Regional Leader about the value of attending the Academy, and a Q&A session. [Register](#) ahead of time.

Questions? Need connections in your region?

Send questions or requests to ETS Lead Geneviève de Messières:
genevieve.demessieres@nasa.gov