



National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities



The National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities (NCEF) provides information on planning, designing, funding, building, improving and maintaining safe, healthy, high-performing schools. Its website, at www.ncef.org, is the largest source of school facilities information in the world, with over 23,000 resources, ranging from early childhood and K-12 to higher education. More than 450,000 users visited the site in 2015 to learn more about critical issues, such as safety and security, health in public buildings and energy use.

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NCEF is an unbiased compilation of more than 23,000 resources. Created in 1997 by the U.S. Department of Education, the National Institute of Building Sciences has operated NCEF since 1998. Its purpose is to offer timely and comprehensive information for all stakeholders involved in designing, building and maintaining safe, healthy, high-performing schools.

NCEF website visitors are school board members, educators, facility managers, school planners, architects, engineers, researchers, public officials, citizens and students. They are the faces behind the billions of dollars spent annually on school construction; school operations and maintenance; and school energy costs.

The hundreds of thousands of annual visitors to the NCEF website, www.ncef.org, find an array of educational facilities-related resources.

Popular Features

NCEF's most popular features include:

- Resource Lists, drawn from NCEF's vast database of nearly 17,000 records. Subject-specific resource lists provide a quick path to more than 150 school facilities topics.
- NCEF News and Updates summarize and provide links to news stories about educational facilities nationwide. A searchable archive of over 3,700 news articles dating back to 2004 provides a unique source of information.
- Links to facilities-related professional organizations; federal, state and local agencies and organizations; academic research centers; and media sources provide a useful shortcut to the most frequently contacted sources.
- "Safe Schools," the Institute produced NCEF video series, helps school personnel identify potential safety issues that could exist in and around K-12 school grounds and school buildings.
- Articles about protecting schools from active shooters are one of the most important topics covered on the NCEF website.

NCEF is undergoing a redesign that will allow a host of new features, such as the option to receive automatic NCEF-related newsfeeds to a person's computer desktop. Visit the NCEF website to see what's new. ■



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