

Rivers of Steel Education

Rivers of Steel's education programs offer unique, inquiry-based opportunities for students to discover how southwestern Pennsylvania's natural resources have shaped our industrial past and cultural heritage—and how our environment today impacts our region's future.

Blending history and with hands-on STEM exploration, Rivers of Steel's education programs guide students in understanding the complex intersection among industry, innovation, environment, and economics in defining our region's assets and opportunities. Additional workshops focus on building critical thinking skills through the use of primary resources and abstract thinking through creative contextualization.

Your contributions support the following STEM, history, social studies and arts-focused student programs:

Environmental Science on the Three Rivers

Using living and nonliving indicators of water quality, students explore the ecology of Pittsburgh's three rivers and gain a core understanding of the fundamental concepts of urban watersheds on the *Explorer* riverboat.

Science & Industry at the Carrie Blast Furnace

From the science and technology of the iron-making process to the cultural context of the immigrant worker experience, students discover how the steel industry shaped southwestern Pennsylvania.

Carrie in Context: Post-Industrial Arts

Students examine how guerilla artists, graffiti writers, urban artists—and later, curators and installation artists—have made creative uses of revered spaces at Carrie Blast Furnace.

The Battle of Homestead: Conflict and Cooperation and the American Labor Story

Students gain a nuanced understanding of the conflict of 1892 through guided inquiry and the review of primary and secondary source documents from Rivers of Steel's archives at the Bost Building National Historic Landmark.



What is EITC?

The Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program assists with Educational Improvement Organizations in Pennsylvania and helps to fund enriching student learning experiences.

Contributions give local students a chance for educational field trips, while providing a tax break for participating businesses.

Once you are signed up for EITC, you are able to make a donation to Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation as an Educational Improvement Organization and be reimbursed by the state through a Pennsylvania tax credit.

Tax credits may be applied against the tax liability of a business for the tax year in which the contribution was made. Tax credits equal to 75 percent of its contribution up to a maximum of \$750,000 per taxable year. This contribution can be increased to 90 percent if the business agrees to provide the same amount for two consecutive years.

Businesses that operate in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania can claim this credit if they are subject to the following taxes:

- Personal Income Tax
- Capital Stock/Foreign Franchise Tax
- Corporate Net Income Tax
- Bank Shares Tax
- Title Insurance & Trust Company Shares Tax
- Insurance Premium Tax (excluding surplus lines, unauthorized, domestic/foreign marine)
- Mutual Thrift Tax
- Malt Beverage Tax
- Retaliatory Fees under section 212 of the Insurance Company Law of 1921



Who benefits?



Fifty percent of the schools served by Rivers of Steel are from Title 1 schools. As indicated on the Pennsylvania Performance Profile, a Title 1 school has at least 40 percent of its student population coming from low-income households.

By designating Rivers of Steel as a recipient of your EITC contribution, your dollars can help us continue to provide educational opportunities for all students.

Visit <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/educational-improvement-tax-credit-program-eitc/> for more information on how your business can apply.

Inquires can be directed to education@riversofsteel.com.

ABOUT RIVERS OF STEEL

Founded on the principles of heritage development, community partnership, and a reverence for the region's natural and shared resources, Rivers of Steel strengthens the economic and cultural fabric of western Pennsylvania by fostering dynamic initiatives and transformative experiences.

Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation

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