IRIS Education and Public Outreach (www.iris.edu) has developed a multi-faceted approach to address an increasing need for seismology-related instruction at the middle, high school and university levels. An increasing percentage of IRIS materials and professional development are provided on-line. Activities and tools have been developed that use seismic data to explore such topics as Earth structure, seismicity, and wave propagation. Electronic resources range from simple animations to illustrate specific concepts, short video lectures and demonstrations that support classroom teaching, to interactive computer software. “Teachable Moments” presentations provide short summaries of large earthquakes for grab-and-go use in the classroom that are available within a day of the earthquake and include a variety of content allowing educators to customize the information for their classes.

Educational seismographs have been distributed to over 150 schools following training workshops. A recent priority to improve the connectedness of users has resulted in a more-effective online interface that enables educators to share and use seismic data while communicating with other users. Users view and compare near-real-time displays of participating schools, upload and download data, employ the “find a teacher” tool to contact other schools, and discuss technical and well as scientific issues via on-line forums. Collaborations with UK and Ireland networks has resulted in web-based tools that leverage the underpinning IRIS internet structure to allow educators around the world to easily establish an online presence for their own regional networks. Currently over 300 educational seismic stations worldwide are networked via the Seismographs in Schools web site.