

Delaware STEM Educator AWARDs –October 8, 2019

Program Summary

The Delaware STEM Educator Awards recognize a teacher or team of teachers at the elementary, middle and high school levels who demonstrate STEM innovation and excellence through teaching, academic collaboration, and student engagement. A total of three unrestricted cash awards of up to \$7,500 will be given to each first-place winning teacher or team of teachers.

The Delaware STEM Council’s and Delaware Foundation for Science and Mathematics Education’s (DFSME) definition of STEM education and the Council’s three goals are the basis for the preliminary evaluation of exemplary STEM practice in the classroom.

Definition of STEM:

STEM Education is an approach to teaching and learning that emphasizes integration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for all students through student-focused, problem-based curricula and instruction. STEM education fosters creativity and innovation while developing communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills through a focus on authentic and appropriate contexts in curriculum and assessment.

STEM Council Goals:

- 1) Expand the number of Delaware students who ultimately pursue advanced degrees and careers in STEM fields and broaden the participation of women and minorities in these fields;
- 2) Expand the STEM capable workforce to create, grow and attract STEM-related businesses to Delaware;
- 3) Increase STEM literacy for all Delaware students including those who pursue non-STEM related careers, but need STEM skills.

Eligibility - Applicants must be certified teachers at the K-12 grade level in a Delaware public school. Applicants must be full-time employees of the school or school district as determined by state and district policies and teach K-12 students at least 50% of the time.

Selection Procedure - For the 2018-19 academic year, the Delaware STEM Educator Award Selection Committee (a group representative of the Governor’s Delaware STEM Council and DFSME) will review all completed applications and select three recipients of the prizes: one at the elementary (K-5), one at the middle (6-8), and one at the high school level (9-12).

Award Submission Requirements

Electronic submission is required. All written components should be typed and double spaced using a standard 12-point font or larger. Be sure to include a running header including page numbers for the entirety of the application. Both written portions of the application and visual materials must be submitted electronically. Be sure that all files contain the same last name and district of at least one team member in order to assure that your submitted files can be kept together. Dropboxes can be utilized for large files such as video or large jpeg files. Incomplete applications or those submitted without following the specified guidelines will be automatically disqualified. Ensure that your application communicates the information you intend. Submit all application materials to DelawareSTEMAwards@gmail.com
Completed applications and all supporting materials must be received by August 15, 2019.

If you are selected as a recipient of the Delaware STEM Educator Award, the Delaware Governor's STEM Council and Delaware Foundation for Science and Mathematics Education (DFSME) reserve the right to reproduce information/photos/other content in promotional materials, on the Delaware STEM website, etc. When submitting materials that contain images, names, or are the products of students and other individuals or student work, you must obtain appropriate FERPA consent to release forms from your school district, which consent to the transmission to the Delaware Governor's STEM Council and/or DFSME of student images and work product that may be part of the student's educational record. A copy of the consent to release form should accompany the materials provided to the STEM Council.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applications must include the following information in the order presented:

If the application is being created by a team of teachers, each of the following is required for every member unless otherwise specified.

Items to be included, in this order:

- Application form(s) completed and signed by applicant(s) and principal/administrator.
- Photographs of the applicant(s) (headshot as well as with students) along with FERPA consent to release forms from the students' parents.
- Résumé that details the applicant's teaching experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards and publications, and community involvement. This should not be a narrative and should not exceed two pages.
- Typical one-week schedule including time and subjects taught. Briefly describe content or thematic base of course/program and student demographics (one page). This should be submitted as an individual or as a team, as necessary to explain your programming adequately.
- Instructional method (maximum of five pages, double spaced) (**Only one per team should be submitted**). Provide a description of the applicant's (or applying team's) program. The description should address all of the following:
 - Use of current and applicable science, math, technology and engineering standards. (e.g. Common Core, NGSS, ISTE, DCSTA, etc.)
 - Implementation of innovative strategies that can be shared and adopted at other schools.
 - Utilization of real world application(s) or problem(s).
 - Teaching various levels of students, including those who may be underrepresented in STEM, at risk, or have differing abilities.
 - Application of STEM Council goals.
 - Application of the STEM Council's approach to STEM education by integrating at least three of the four elements of S, T, E and/or M.
 - Appropriate supporting evidence illustrating the above criteria.
- Three letters of support with at least one from an education colleague and one from a district or school administrator who can describe the merit of the applicant's work. These letters should not exceed 2 pages each. **A team application requires only THREE LETTERS OF SUPPORT as does an individual application.**
- Three examples of student products illustrating the nature of STEM and/or evidence of STEM- based practices (these may include visual representations of student work/video clips/PowerPoints/photographs/etc.) should be included to provide physical evidence of descriptions provided in the required narrative portion of the application. *Do not exceed 3 products including videos.* Videos should not exceed 15 minutes each. **A team application requires only THREE EXAMPLES OF**



STUDENT PRODUCTS as does an individual application.

Upon receipt, all applications and supporting materials become the property of Delaware Governor's STEM Council and DFSME. Applications will not be returned. Late applications will not be accepted. All materials must be submitted electronically. Note: Please be mindful that all precautions for student safety be taken as part of any application material submitted. ***Completed applications and all supporting materials must be received by August 15, 2019.***

Submit your original application and supporting materials to:
DelawareSTEMAwards@gmail.com

Please use www.dropbox.com or another cloud based application to send large files that do not fit in regular email correspondence. Dropbox provides up to 2 Gigabytes of free file storage that can be shared by generating a URL that should be sent with your application to DelawareSTEMAwards@gmail.com. Directions for generating the URL are provided at the www.dropbox.com site. Be sure to include a subject line with your name (or your team's name) and school name. If you need to send more than one email to include all required documentation, be sure to include your name/team name and school name in the subject line of all emails sent. **The Delaware STEM Educator Awards will be presented at the October 8, 2019 STEM Symposium. Applicants are required to attend from 12 noon to 8:00 pm.**

Delaware STEM Educator AWARD Application

If the application is for a team, each member should fill out a form.

Name of Applicant: _____

School/Organization Name: _____ City

_____ County _____ Zip _____

Home Address _____

Telephone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____ E-mail _____ Signature

of Nominee _____ Date _____ Grade

Level _____ K-5 _____ 6-8 _____ 9-12

What is your school's grade configuration? (circle one) **K-5** **6-8** **9-12** **other** _____

(write in grades)

Principal's/Supervisor's Name _____

School/Organization Name _____

School/Organization Address _____

Telephone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

E-mail _____

I have read and support the application. To the best of my knowledge, I verify that the information provided is true and current.

Signature of Supervisor/Principal _____ Date _____

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Checklist

Please include all requirements before submitting your application. Use the following checklist to ensure a complete application.

- Completed application form signed by the applicant and school principal/administrator. (One per applicant.)
- Photographs of applicants. (Each applicant should submit both a headshot and photos with students.)
- Narrative, no more than 5 pages double spaced. (One narrative per team).
- Résumé, one for each applicant.
- Three letters of support describing the merit of the applicant’s work. Includes one from education colleague, one from building or district administrator and one additional. Letters are not to exceed three pages each. (Whether applying as an individual or a team, only three letters are needed.)
- Student work evidence illustrating the nature of STEM and/or evidence of STEM based practices in accordance with STEM Council definition and goals. (Work should include visual representations of student work/video clips/PowerPoints/photographs/etc. to support the written submissions). You are limited to 3 pieces of evidence and any video evidence must be limited to 15 minutes for each video file.

If you are selected as a recipient of the Delaware STEM Educator Award, the Delaware Governor’s STEM Council and Delaware Foundation for Science and Mathematics Education (DFSME) reserve the right to reproduce information/photos/other content in promotional materials, on the Delaware STEM website, etc. When submitting materials that contain images, names, or are the products of students and other individuals or student work, you must obtain appropriate FERPA consent to release forms from your school district, which consent to the transmission to the Delaware Governor’s STEM Council and/or DFSME of student images and work product that may be part of the student’s educational record. A copy of the consent to release form should accompany the materials provided to the STEM Council.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.



Delaware STEM Educator Award OFFICIAL JUDGES' SCORING GUIDE

Name: _____

City/County: _____

Grade Level: _____ K-5 _____ 6-8 _____ 9-12

Criteria							Score
Application is complete							YES or NO
Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Superior	Weight	SCORE
Narrative—No more than 5 pages. Includes the following: a) Demonstration of current and applicable science, math, technology and engineering standards (e.g. Common Core, NGSS, ISTE etc.) b) Implementation of innovative “out of the box” strategies that can be shared and adopted at other schools. c) Teaching of various levels of students, including those that may be underrepresented in STEM, at risk, or have differing abilities. d) Demonstration of application of STEM Council goals e) Demonstration of STEM Council approach to STEM education by integrating at least three of the four elements of STEM	1	2	3	4	5	55%	
	1	2	3	4	5		
	1	2	3	4	5		
	1	2	3	4	5		
	1	2	3	4	5		
Resume—Includes teaching experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards and published materials.	1	2	3	4	5	5%	
Letters of Support—3 letters of support describing the merit of the applicant’s work. Includes one from education colleague, one from building or district administrator and one additional. Letters do not exceed three pages each.	1	2	3	4	5	10%	
Student work evidence illustrates the nature of STEM and/or evidence of STEM based practices in accordance with STEM Council definition and goals. (include visual representations of student work/video clips/PowerPoints/photographs/etc. to support the written submissions).	1	2	3	4	5	30%	

Comments: _____

Judge: _____ Date: _____