9th Delaware STEM Educator AWARDS –2023

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

Definitions - 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:

- 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;
- Expand the STEM capable workforce to create, grow and attract STEM-related businesses to Delaware;
- Increase STEM literacy for all Delaware students including those who pursue non-STEM related careers, but need STEM skills.

Eligibility - Applicants can be certified K-12 teachers in the Delaware public school system as well as exceptional educators who may be uncertified but still work with K-12 students in a focused STEM curriculum. Such a curriculum (science, math, engineering, technology, computer science and CTE) must still meet all expectations and goals of the Delaware STEM Council, as listed above. Programs can include before and after-school programs as well as summer camps. Preference is given to published STEM curriculums and programs that have been vetted, sustainable STEM programs and activities that have impacted many and can be replicated and scaled across the state and beyond.

Selection Procedure - For the 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 for certified educators and community programs and select at least three recipients of the prizes: at the elementary (K-5), at the middle (6-8), and 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. Cloud storage and file sharing

applications like Google Drive, iCloud, Dropbox, etc., 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 will be accepted on a rolling basis but must be received by May 30, 2022.**

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:

(Please check all boxes to ensure that all materials are included in submission)

- ❑ 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 and/or appropriate consent to release forms from the students' parents and school/organization.
- ❑ 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.) Delaware State standards can be found at: https://www.doe.k12.de.us/ Tab: Instruction and Assessment., Subtab: Standards and Instruction, or CTE
    - ❑ 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, one from a school or district administrator who can describe the merit of the applicant's work, and one additional letter of support. These letters should not exceed 2 pages each. **A team application requires only THREE LETTERS OF SUPPORT as does an individual application**.

❑ A minimum of six examples of student products illustrating the nature of STEM and/or evidence of STEM- based practices (these may include visual representations of student work/videos/PowerPoints/photographs/etc.) should be included to provide physical evidence of descriptions provided in the required narrative portion of the application. Videos should not exceed 15 minutes each. *It should be noted that the quality of student products submission could affect scoring (see rubric).* **A team application requires only SIX 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 will be accepted on a rolling basis but must be received by Sept 30, 2023.**

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

Please use a cloud-based application to send large files that do not fit in regular email correspondence. When using a cloud application to share your submission, please send the applicable URL to download the files directly to DelawareSTEMAwards@gmail.com. Be sure to include a subject line with your name (or your team's name) and school/organization's 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 and indicate how many emails we should expect.

After the application deadline has passed you should plan to be contacted with additional information. We will also ask that you fill out documents pertaining to a possible winning of the awards including a W9.

While the current health pandemic has things changing on a regular basis, it is the Council's intention that the Delaware STEM Educator Awards will be presented November 2023 as part of the recurring STEM Symposium. Applicants are required to attend from 12 noon to 8:00 pm. More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead but the planned date is November 9th 2023 in New Castle County.

DELAWARE STEM COUNCIL

Delaware STEM Educator AWARD Application

Applicant is applying for: Certified K-12 Educator _____ or Community STEM Program _____

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

Name of Applicant:

Affiliation Name and Address (School):

City:	County:	Zip:
Home Address:		
Telephone:	Email:	
Grade Level: K-5	6-8	9-12

What is your School's grade configuration? (circle all that apply):

K-5 6-8 9-12 Other (write in grades)

Signature of Applicant: Date:

To be completed by Applicant's Principal or Executive Director

Principal or Executive Director's Name:

School or Organization Name:

Address:

Telephone:	Email:

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 Principal or Executive Director Date:

Delaware STEM Educator AWARDS – Checklist

(Please check all boxes to ensure that all materials are included in submission)

Please double-check that you have included all requirements before submitting your application. Use the following checklist to ensure a complete application.

- ❑ Completed application form signed by the applicant and school/organization's 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 an education colleague, one from a building or district administrator and one additional letter of support. 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 should include a minimum of 6 pieces of evidence and any video evidence must be limited to 15 minutes for each video file.
- ❑ When submitting materials that contain images, names, or are the products of students and other individuals or student work, you must obtain appropriate consent to release forms from your school district or organization. Consent forms can include, FERPA, parent/guardian releases, etc., 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.

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.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Delaware STEM Educator Award
OFFICIAL JUDGES' SCORING GUIDE (For Reference to Applicant only)

Name of Applicant:

City/County:

Grade Level:

K-5 6-8 9-12 Other

Circle One: Certified Educator or Community Applicant

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, CTE, etc.).	1	2	3	4	5		
b) Implementation of innovative "out of the box" strategies that can be shared and adopted at other schools.	1	2	3	4	5		
c) Teaching of various levels of students, including those that may be underrepresented in STEM, at risk, or having differing abilities.	1	2	3	4	5	55%	
d) Demonstration of application of STEM Council goals.	1	2	3	4	5		
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		
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 an education colleague, one from an administrator and one additional. Letters should not exceed three pages each.	1	2	3	4	5	10%	
Student work evidence – Illustrates the nature of STEM and/or evidence of STEM bases 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%	

DELAWARE STEM COUNCIL

Comments:	
Judge:	Date: