



STEM Grant Application 2015

The Michigan STEM Partnership is a statewide, public-private collaborative that includes educators, employers, policy-makers, and others who are addressing the current lack of STEM skills in schoolchildren and job applicants.

The Michigan STEM Partnership Board provides leadership to five regional STEM hubs **each of which has an active leadership team to direct STEM activities in the hub.**

Our Vision

The Michigan STEM Partnership positively impacts economic development by connecting the P-20 education system to relevant world-class skills, academic ambitions and rewarding career pathways. Leveraging our extraordinary Michigan assets, STEM education serves the workforce needs of STEM fields and the creative demands of a diverse, innovative and thriving Michigan economy.

Our Mission

The Michigan STEM Partnership is the connector and statewide communicator between employers, educators, students, parents, and legislators, providing strategic support for the effectiveness and sustainability of STEM education in order to prepare Michigan learners to reach their full potential in a fiercely competitive economy.

STEM Grants 2015

In 2015, the STEM Partnership will offer competitive grants that support a culture of applied learning that is hands-on, cross-disciplinary, and project-based. Each application must include letters of support or memoranda of understanding from collaborative partners such as the Michigan Mathematics and Science Centers. (<http://www.mimathandscience.org/>). This approach to education will nurture the development of skills required in the modern workplace.

We hope that these grants will allow for the initiation of new ideas and systemic transformative approaches to STEM education.

We look forward to hearing your ideas for transforming our education system to better support a vibrant Michigan economy.

Mandatory criteria

To be eligible for funding, proposals must:

- Support student-focused, project-based programs and competitions, either in the classroom or extra-curricula, in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics such as, but not limited to, robotics, coding and design-build-test projects, from pre-kindergarten through college level
- Partner with a regional mathematics and science centers
- Support collaborative efforts across organizations

Priority criteria (must address at least two):

- Promote positive systemic change in the K-8 education system
- Respond to a unique opportunity to move STEM education forward to the benefit of the Michigan economy
- “Seed” on-going, long-term projects, sustainable or replicable
- Include under-served/under-represented youth and communities
- Include matching funds and/or in-kind contributions
- Reflect regional collaboration and partnerships
- Increase scholarship and internship opportunities
- Foster innovation and entrepreneurship
- Expand and strengthen the STEM Partnership

Low priority will be given to one-time events, personnel training, conferences, marketing and promotion.

Eligibility

Grants may be made to 501c3 organizations, schools, community colleges, universities, after-school organizations, government entities, and businesses who will work in collaboration. Funds will not be awarded to individuals, or individual organizations. Funds may not be used to cover deficits or other previously incurred obligations.

Application

Grant proposals must be submitted through the Michigan STEM Partnership. (<http://mistempartnership.com>).

April 10, 2015 - Applications due

May 15, 2015 - Grant awards will be announced

May 1, 2016 - Projects must be completed

Budget

Application must include a detailed budget that clearly reflects all costs associated with the project. Application amounts between \$5,000 and \$10,000 are most likely to be successful, although applications for larger amounts will be considered.

Proposal Format

There is no specific format required for applications. However, the grant application checklist shows the items that must be included in a proposal, the evaluation rubric is supplied and the proposal application is limited to 20 pages.

Important, the application should provide the rationale behind the proposal, provide a teacher/staff training, be aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards or Michigan State Standards, and how the project supports the goals of the Michigan STEM Partnership.

Reporting requirements

If a grant is awarded, the grantee will be required to submit written reports on progress and expenditures mid-way through and at the end of the project on the following dates: December 15, 2015 and May 1, 2016. The final report must include the results of the pre/post evaluation of participants benefitting from the project. Grantees will also be required to present or showcase programs in at least one Michigan STEM related conference (such as but not limited to Michigan Career Education Conference, TRENDS in Occupational Studies Conference Michigan Science Teachers Association Conference, Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference (funds for travel and overnight stays may be included in proposed budget if necessary).

Grant application Checklist

Each application must include:

- 1. Title page**
- 2. Cover letter outlining:**
 - a. Legal name(s) of all participating Organizations
 - b. Dollar amount requested
 - c. Purpose of the project
 - d. Population being served
 - e. Length of project

The letter must be signed by CEO/executive officer(s) and/or the Board Chair(s) of the organizations making application.

- 3. Name, address, and telephone information of all applicant organizations, and the main contact person for the proposal.**

4. Project description

- a. Description of the project and how it addresses the mandatory criteria
- b. Indication of whether this is a new project, an extension, or part of an ongoing plan
- c. Objectives of project
- d. Description of the partnerships that are part of the project, including an outline of the role and responsibilities of each partner
- e. Detailed work plan and timeline
- f. Relevant qualifications and experience of the project's principal staff

5. Required financial information

- a. Dollar amount of proposal and the time period for use of the funds
- b. Detailed budget for the project, including any in-kind contributions
- c. Copy of a recent certified financial audit where applicable

6. Supporting materials

- a. Copy of the most recent IRS 501(c)3 tax exemption letter, if applicable
- b. Letters of support or memoranda of understanding from project partners
- c. A clearly defined pre/post evaluation of participants
- d. Résumés of principal staff for the project
- e. Copy of the primary partner's annual report if applicable