



**The Need:** As Nevada’s STEM economy continues to grow, so too will its need for skilled workers. The need to grow student interest and engagement in STEM has never been greater, and it all starts in the classroom with a great STEM teacher.

**The Award:** The STEM Teacher of the Year award honors six dedicated teachers that inspire a life-long passion for STEM and equip students with the knowledge and skills needed for careers in the New Nevada. Each year, the winners will be recognized at the Governor’s K-12 STEM Challenge Recognition Events. Over the 2018-2019 schoolyear, the STEM Advisory Council will highlight the practices and pedagogy of the six STEM Teachers of the Year as models for teachers around the state. Each teacher will receive a \$1,000 award for their classroom.

**Nominations:** The Governor’s Office of Science, Innovation and Technology (OSIT) and the STEM Advisory Council invite nominations for STEM Teacher of the Year for Northern and Southern Nevada in Elementary, Middle, and High School. Nominations must be made by the principal. Nominations are due March 7, 2018. See nomination details below.

**Applications:** Teachers that are nominated by their principal must complete the brief application below. Applications are due April 4, 2018.



The STEM Teacher of the Year program honors teachers from across Nevada for the contributions they make to lives of students. These teachers are masters of student engagement, provide excellent classroom instruction, and inspire students to pursue STEM learning throughout their entire lives. The STEM Advisory Council will shine a light on these teachers as models of exceptional STEM teaching.

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

All full-time, licensed K-12 STEM teachers at public or private schools in Nevada are eligible for nomination. Teachers must be nominated by their principal. The principal must fill out the nomination form below. Principals may nominate more than one teacher. Nominated teachers will receive an email inviting them to complete the award application. Completed applications by teachers, along with the nomination by the principal, will be evaluated by the STEM Advisory Council. The STEM Advisory Council will select one teacher from each of elementary, middle, and high school levels for Northern Nevada and Southern Nevada, six teachers total. The six awarded teachers will receive an invitation to attend the corresponding Northern or Southern Governor's K-12 STEM Challenge recognition event to receive their award.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

A candidate for STEM Teacher of the Year:

1. Is well respected by their colleagues and school community;
2. Is an expert in their craft and demonstrates a passion for student learning;
3. Facilitates a learning process through inquiry that results in all students from all backgrounds and ability levels excelling in STEM;
4. Purposefully connects classroom instruction with real-world problems and real-world careers;
5. Leverages partnerships with parents, industry, and the community to bring learning to life; and
6. Demonstrates innovative leadership inside and outside of the school.

### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STEM TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

STEM Teachers of the Year are asked to work with the STEM Advisory Council and the Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology (OSIT) to highlight innovative practices and pedagogy for replication across the State, assist in the development of resources, and serve as an ambassador to parents, businesses, and policymakers.



## BACKGROUND

The mission of the Nevada STEM Advisory Council is to increase student interest and achievement in the fields of science, engineering, technology, and mathematics, leading students to rewarding careers in the New Nevada economy.

The Mission of OSIT is to coordinate and align efforts by K-12 and higher education, workforce development, and employers to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and STEM workforce development so that Nevada's workforce can meet the demands of its growing economy.

## SPONSORSHIP

OSIT would like to thank the following STEM industry partners for their generous sponsorship of the STEM Teacher of the Year awards:

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## CONTACT

For questions about the nominating or award process, please contact:

Brian Mitchell  
Director- Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology  
blmitchell@gov.nv.gov



# STEM Teacher of the Year

## Nomination Form

Nominations for STEM Teacher of the Year must come from the nominee's principal. Principals may nominate more than one teacher from their school. Principals must respond to the questions below. **Nomination forms must be emailed in PDF form to: [blmitchell@gov.nv.gov](mailto:blmitchell@gov.nv.gov) by 5pm on March 7, 2018.**

Nomination Form Questions:

- 1) Principal's Name
- 2) School
- 3) School District (or indicate charter or private school)
- 4) School Address
- 5) Phone Number
- 6) Principal's E-mail Address
- 7) Nominee's Name
- 8) Nominee's Subject and Grade-level
- 9) Nominee's E-mail Address
- 10) Please describe why you feel that the Nominee should be the STEM Teacher of the Year. (300 words or less)



# STEM Teacher of the Year

## Application Form

This application form must be filled out by a STEM teacher that has been nominated by her or his principal. Please do not fill out the application until you have been notified via email that your principal has submitted the nomination form. **Applications must be emailed in PDF form to: [blmitchell@gov.nv.gov](mailto:blmitchell@gov.nv.gov) by 5pm on April 4, 2018.**

Application Form Questions:

### **Applicant Information:**

- 1) Teacher's Name
- 2) School
- 3) School District (or indicate charter or private school)
- 4) School Address
- 5) Phone Number
- 6) E-mail Address
- 7) Subject and Grade Level
- 8) Principal's Name

### **Applicant Biography**

- 1) Please include your resume as a separate PDF.
- 2) Please include a headshot as a separate attachment. Your headshot will be used on the website and in materials related to the STEM Teacher of the Year.



- 3) Write a professional biography using 150 words or less. This biography will be used on the website and in materials related to the STEM Teacher of the Year.

**Application Questions-** Please respond to each question in 500 words or less:

- 1) Describe a STEM lesson that you are proud of and that defines your philosophy as a STEM teacher. How do you facilitate a learning experience for all students? How do you know when you have inspired students?
- 2) Describe how you connect students with the world beyond your classroom. How do you relate what students are learning to other subjects? To STEM careers? How do these efforts change your students?
- 3) Describe a time when your efforts to be a leader at your school have resulted in positive change. What was your role? How did you involve others? How were students impacted?

**Artifact**

- 1) Please submit one artifact that embodies or describes your STEM teaching. Examples of artifacts could include a 60-second video on YouTube, a picture of a lesson or activity, a lesson or unit plan etc.