Governor's STEM Advisory Council's *Seal of Approval*

The Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council is focused on increasing student interest and achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in Iowa. The task is to prepare STEM-literate students for career paths in the economically vital fields of bioscience (agriculture and health), finance, information technology, advanced manufacturing, and other STEM fields in order to provide a competitive, economic advantage to our communities and state.

But, STEM can happen almost anywhere. It can happen at hackathons, conferences, after school programs, clubs, events, and more. To enculturate, sustain, and spread STEM thinking, the STEM Council has created the *Seal of Approval* to recognize and support select, non-Council programs and events that help achieve STEM Council goals. The STEM Council's *Seal of Approval* assures the public that the event or program advances the state's interest in nurturing and sustaining the environment necessary for cultivating the next generation of innovators for STEM fields and careers.

Thank you, reviewer, for serving as the STEM Council's agent in identifying suitable partners to brand with the Governor's STEM Advisory Council's *Seal of Approval*.

Reviewer Name: _____

Date of Review: _____

Title of Program or Event: _____

☐ By checking this box, you acknowledge that you have no direct or indirect ties or relationship with this program, event, or its applicant.

1) Important Links

Seal-ready! (4-5)	Promising (2-3)	Not ready (0-1)
Links and/or videos provide clear visual representations of the program/event. Tidy, professional, and conveying an excitement for STEM. Meets STEM Council's standards.	Links and/or videos are not always clear, present, or professionally presented as such that program/event runs a risk of under-valuation or misrepresentation.	Links and/or videos are lacking, absent, or poorly represented.

OPTIONAL COMMENTS:

2) Community and Program/Event Design

Seal-ready! (4-5)	Promising (2-3)	Not ready (0-1)
Program/event fits community need and targets an appropriate and existent audience.	Program/event aims to address a community need or audience that is unclear.	Program/event is poorly linked to the community in terms of fit, audience, or need.

OPTIONAL COMMENTS:

3) History, mission, funding, and logistics (with examples, data, and links where necessary)

Seal-ready! (4-5)	Promising (2-3)	Not ready (0-1)
Program/event has a clear mission, thought-through logistics, adequate funding, and a proven history (if relevant) with helpful examples provided.	Program/event mission may be unclear, the funding is not well defined, and/or the logistics leave doubt with minimal, helpful examples.	Program/event is poorly conceived or represented regarding mission, funding, logistics, and history.

OPTIONAL COMMENTS:

4) Environment, structure, and design

Seal-ready! (4-5)	Promising (2-3)	Not ready (0-1)
Program/event is solidly designed to achieve its mission with a clear agenda and set-up that assures fostering of collaboration, reasoning, and problem-based learning.	Program/event design suggests it might go well, but gaps and questions remain as to whether it will foster collaboration, reasoning, and problem-based learning.	Program/event leaves the reviewer with significant concerns regarding design, agenda, and thus outcomes.

OPTIONAL COMMENTS:

5) Personnel involved and qualifications

Seal-ready! (4-5)	Promising (2-3)	Not ready (0-1)
Personnel involved in executing the program/event are well-qualified with STEM-appropriate credentials, experience, or training/mentoring.	Not entirely clear that the personnel involved in executing the program/event are well-qualified with STEM-appropriate credentials, experience, or training/mentoring.	No evidence that the personnel involved are qualified.

OPTIONAL COMMENTS:

6) Enculturate, activate, engage the Iowa community

Seal-ready! (4-5)	Promising (2-3)	Not ready (0-1)
Program/event is inclusive and likely to be interesting to many. It is likely to "make a splash" that garners positive attention. The community is likely to rally around and benefit from the program/event.	Program/event does not provide convincing evidence that it is inclusive and may not generate sufficient interest to garner positive attention or rally the community.	Program/event may tend toward non-inclusiveness and may be uninteresting, thus failing to engage the community.

OPTIONAL COMMENTS:

7) Alignment with the STEM Council's definition of STEM

The STEM Council's definition of STEM is "…an interdisciplinary approach to learning where rigorous academic concepts are coupled with real-world lessons as students apply science, technology, engineering and mathematics in contexts that make connections between school, community, work and the global enterprise enabling the development of STEM literacy and with it the ability to compete in the new economy."

Seal-ready! (4-5)	Promising (2-3)	Not ready (0-1)
Program/event strongly aligns with the STEM Council's definition of STEM in that it is interdisciplinary, applied, active, community-relevant, and contributes to STEM literacy and economic-readiness.	Program/event only somewhat aligns with the STEM Council's definition of STEM in that it may not be interdisciplinary, or applied, or active, or community-relevant, or contributing to STEM literacy and economic-readiness.	Program/event does not align with the STEM Council's definition of STEM.

OPTIONAL COMMENTS:

8) Location and Duration

Seal-ready! (4-5)	Promising (2-3)	Not ready (0-1)
Program/event is ideally located for its target audience and resources. The duration is appropriate for accomplishing the mission.	Program/event is awkwardly or poorly located given its target audience and resources, and/or its duration is too long or too short for its mission.	Program/event has a poorly considered location and/or its duration is inappropriate.

OPTIONAL COMMENTS:

TOTAL SCORE	

- [Question 9 on the application is intended to aid the STEM Council Operations Team in supporting the approved programs only. Not scored.]

- The STEM Council's *Seal of Approval* requires a score ≥ 32 averaged across reviewers. [Decision resides with STEM Council leaders.]

- All applicants will be provided with a copy of the rubric with their scores indicated, plus any comments reviewers wish to provide.