

# STEM Leaders Academy 2025-2026

## Overview & Schedule



Nevada Governor's  
Office of Science,  
Innovation and  
Technology



---

Thank you for your interest in the STEM Leaders Academy. The Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology invites school teams to participate in a year-long cohort with the goals of increasing PK-12 students' participation, interest, achievement, and awareness of STEM and STEM careers while growing teacher and administrator capacity in creating high-quality STEM learning environments.

The STEM Leaders Academy is designed to support Nevada's K-12 schools in developing a plan for enhanced STEM learning experiences. Academy participants learn about high-quality STEM school attributes, complete self-evaluations and reflections, and create a path toward their ideal STEM schools. Academy completers have access to apply for a grant up to \$25,000 per school to launch their strategic plans. Additionally, leadership team members will earn extra duty pay for Saturday workshop participation.

### Goals

- Understand the [Nevada STEM Framework](#) and the designation application process
- Define STEM and identify how STEM is beneficial for students
- Develop a long-term STEM strategic plan
- Identify resources, professional learning and tools to advance STEM at the school

### Outcomes

- Increased understanding of the Nevada STEM Framework and the designation
- 5-year STEM strategic plan specific to your school
- Strong foundational understanding of STEM instructional practices
- Access to grant funding up to \$25,000 to implement the plan
- Credit for attendance (license renewal hours)

### [Governor STEM School Designation](#)

Please note, participation in the academy is not required to become a Governor Designated STEM School. Alternatively, completing the academy does not result in an automatic designation. The

designation involves an application process that is separate from the academy. The academy will, however, prepare your school for the designation application process.

- The Designation means that the school meets the attributes of a HQ STEM school, as outlined in the Nevada STEM Framework
- Designated schools can use the designation as a marketing tool
- Designated schools receive a banner and a digital seal to display
- Designated schools join the Designated STEM Schools Network with access to exclusive funding, professional learning, and networking opportunities
- Designated schools are invited to a recognition event with the Governor.

### **School Teams**

Schools applying for the STEM Leaders Academy will be expected to have a STEM Leadership Team. The team must attend all meetings and workshops across the school year.

- Teams should have a minimum of 5 and no more than 8 members, and include a variety of grade levels and subjects.
  - Example: principal, kindergarten, 3rd, 5th, STEM specialist/strategist
- Teams must include an administrator. Administrative support and participation are imperative to the success of shifting the school culture.
- Teams must stay the same throughout the year. You may not substitute team members for any of the workshops.

### **Application Process**

- **Apply for the STEM Leaders Academy [here!](#)**
- For priority enrollment, submit your application by **May 2, 2025**.
- Waitlist applications will be accepted through August 15, 2025.
- Applicants will be contacted to schedule a brief Zoom call to discuss the school's STEM programming and goals.
- Applicants will be notified of acceptance status after the Zoom meeting.

Please contact

Lis Dziminski at [LDziminski@gov.nv.gov](mailto:LDziminski@gov.nv.gov) or

Tracey Howard at [t.howard@gov.nv.gov](mailto:t.howard@gov.nv.gov)

with any questions.

**Apply for the STEM Leaders Academy [here!](#)**

See the schedule on the following page.

# Schedule (Subject to Change)

Date	Time	Topics	Locations
South: (in person) Saturday 9/06/25  North: (in person) Saturday 9/13/25	7:30am - 12:30pm	Introduction, Category I	<u>Northern Cohort</u> 680 W. Nye Lane Suite 104 Carson City, NV 89703
South: (in person) Saturday 10/04/25  North: (in person) Saturday 10/18/25	7:30am - 12:30pm	Category II	<u>Southern Cohort</u> TBD - volunteer hosts will be requested from participating schools  <u>Rural</u> TBD - individualized based on applicants and locations
South: (in person) Saturday 11/08/25  North: (in person) Saturday 11/15/25	7:30am - 12:30pm	Category III, Start Strategic Planning	<u>Virtual</u> Zoom
South: March (virtual)   North: March (virtual)	TBD	Strategic Plan Review, Grant Procedures	

