What is a STEM School?
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What is success?

How can we measure success?

Identifying and Measuring STEM Schools and Programs

Award # 1445592
K-12 STEM SCHOOL TAXONOMY

REQUIRED ATTRIBUTES

At least one of these is necessary for a STEM School designation.

NUMBER of S, T, E, M courses offered is greater than typical state and/or college admissions requirements (e.g. Advanced Calculus; AP Computer Science) AND is required for ALL students in school.

SCOPE of S, T, E, M courses is greater than typical state and/or college admissions (e.g. Computer Science, Engineering) AND is required for ALL students in school.

STEM is integrated throughout all STEM disciplines and core humanities/language arts courses that ALL students in the school are required to take.

ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS

These components further differentiate STEM schools.

S.T.E.M. (or S.T.E.M.-related)

SPECIFIC

PBL
Research Experiences
Technology Integration
Career Connections
Early College
Some Integration
Internship and/or Mentorship Opportunities
S.T.E.M. Name
S.T.E.M. Mission
Commitment to Spreading S.T.E.M. Practices

NOT S.T.E.M. SPECIFIC

Personalization of Learning
College Readiness Activities
Focus on 21st Century Skills
Varied Assessments
Shared Culture
Partnerships and Community Ties
Sustainability/Improvement Plan

DESCRIPTIVE VARIABLES

These are descriptive qualities; they do not affect the STEM school designation.

SELECTION (one or more)

Application - Interest and Academic Evaluation
Application - Interest and Lottery
No Application - Assigned School (e.g. neighborhood)

STRUCTURE (only one)

School within a school
Residential School
Whole STEM School
Cyber/online School

FUNDING

Private
Public

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Recap:

All schools should have a high quality S.T.E.M. program.

STEM Schools should have MORE

To create STEM School opportunities for kids we all need to:

- Communicate clearly and specifically
- Learn together
- Accumulate Knowledge