

3500 6th Avenue South  
Birmingham AL 35222  
14 May 2021

Dear Alabama Science and Math Educators,

Over the past two years, Alabama has taken significant steps towards developing its STEM readiness. Beginning with the Governor's Advisory Council on Excellence in STEM and continuing with the establishment of the Alabama STEM Council, we are committed to expanding access to quality STEM education and career opportunities. During the COVID-19 workforce recovery, Alabama is focused on preparing Alabamians for resilient occupations, and STEM skills are at the heart of those occupations. To do so, we must connect STEM education to the career opportunities which abound in Alabama.

One of the strategies to connect STEM learning with the world of work is to provide teachers the opportunity to gain firsthand knowledge of the industries in their area. This industry awareness will help teachers answer the age-old student question, "Why will I ever need to know this when I grow up?" To that end, the Alabama STEM Council is piloting a STEM Externship for Educators program during the summer of 2021. This paid externship is a partnership between the STEM Council and Alabama industry leaders and employers. **The externships will occur July 13-15**, with teachers visiting three regional employers for one day each, to observe and see ways their curriculum content translates to the world of work. Those teachers will then **debrief together virtually on July 20** to share their experiences and advise the STEM Council in enhancing the program in the future. Teachers will also participate in professional development within their own school to share what they learned with their peers.

Applications are now open for secondary science and math teachers to secure one of these externship placements. **Completed applications must be submitted by email to [info@alapprentice.org](mailto:info@alapprentice.org) no later than 5 pm on Friday, June 11, 2021.** Selected teachers will be notified within a week of the closing of applications. They will receive a \$500 stipend from the STEM Council in return for participation and to defray any travel costs they incur visiting industry sites.

Thank you for all you do to expand STEM readiness in Alabama. The success of STEM education is a statewide effort, requiring collaboration among many stakeholders including employers, education institutions, and state agencies. Your dedication is a key to success in strengthening our STEM talent pipelines and ensuring that Alabama citizens are on paths to good jobs and promising careers.

With appreciation,



Lee Meadows, Ph.D.  
Interim Executive Director





# Application to Participate in STEM Externship for Educators Sponsored by the Alabama STEM Council

**SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION TO [info@alapprentice.org](mailto:info@alapprentice.org) NO LATER THAN JUNE 11, 2021**

Selected participants will be notified by June 18, 2021.

Externships will occur **July 13, 14 and 15, 2021** and participants will be expected to participate in all three days.

## **Applicant information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Years of teaching experience completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject(s) Taught:

Math Grade(s): \_\_\_6 \_\_\_7 \_\_\_8 \_\_\_9 \_\_\_10 \_\_\_11 \_\_\_12

Science Grade(s): \_\_\_6 \_\_\_7 \_\_\_8 \_\_\_9 \_\_\_10 \_\_\_11 \_\_\_12

*The Alabama STEM Council intends to select applicants representing the diversity of the state. For this purpose, please provide the following demographic information.*

Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Employer Information**

Employing School System: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Is school Title I:      Yes                  No

## **Acknowledgements**

*Submitting this application indicates acknowledgement and acceptance of the following statements.*

- Selected applicants will receive a \$500 stipend as reimbursement for participation after completion of the externship.
  - Participants will be expected to participate in all three days.
  - Stipends for participant who miss a day due to exigent circumstances will be prorated at a rate of \$166/day for any of the three days missed.
  - This stipend is not paid through the employing school system and will not be calculated as part of teacher retirement or other school-system based salary calculations.

- Externships are planned to be in the workforce region from which the teacher applies. [Click here to view map of workforce regions.](#)
  - Participants are responsible for travel, meal, and incidental expenses incurred as part of the externship.
- Participants will be required to present information learned as part of the externship to their peers in a professional development session to be planned at some time during the school year following participation.
- Participants will engage in a debriefing call July 20, 2021.