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\$10 million in state grants available to develop teachers in high-need 'STEM' subjects

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education is accepting applications for the state's STEM Teacher Recruitment Fund grants until Friday, June 30, 2017. The \$10 million grant program was created by the Indiana General Assembly in 2013 to support organizations working to recruit, prepare, place and retain educators in schools where there are shortages of teachers with training and expertise in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subject areas.

"The need for teachers in STEM subjects is increasing along with employer demand for qualified candidates in STEM industries," Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers said. "This grant helps Indiana address this critical need and ensure more Hoosier students are prepared to succeed in high-demand STEM fields."

Currently, over 55,000 Hoosiers are employed in the life sciences, with many new STEM jobs being added each year. Recent estimates indicate that between now and 2024, STEM jobs will grow by nearly 17 percent, surpassing the growth of non-STEM jobs by more than 5 percent.

How to Apply

Non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for a portion of nearly \$10 million to support their efforts to recruit, train, retain and place STEM-field teachers in high need Indiana schools. To be eligible for the grant, applying organizations must present programs that result in individuals becoming licensed or trained to teach science, technology, engineering, or math in Indiana public K-12 schools. Individuals receiving program support through this grant must seek employment in an eligible Indiana public school.

The <u>full grant application and budget worksheet</u> are available on the Commission's website at <u>www.che.in.gov</u>. Winning entries will be selected by a committee of K-12, higher education and workforce stakeholders and announced the week of July 17, 2017.

More about Indiana's STEM Grants

Examples of initiatives supported by the STEM Teacher Recruitment Fund during the last two-year funding cycle include:

- Conexus Indiana Certified 26 new educators to teach the Hire Tech! curriculum.
- **Nextech** Trained a total of 61 teachers in Exploring Computer Science, Computer Science Principles, Computer Science in Science and Computer Science in Algebra.
- **Purdue University** Graduated 10 teachers licensed to teach CTE Agriculture through their Creating a Pipeline for Agricultural Education Teachers in Indiana program.
- **Teach for America** Brought 44 new STEM Teachers to Indiana in academic year 2016-17; 11 in Northwest Indiana and 33 in Indianapolis.
- University of Southern Indiana Welcomed 20 in-service teachers into their New Experiences for Instructors of Dual Enrollment (NExIDE) program preparing them to continue teaching dual-credit STEM courses and meet HLC credentialing requirements.