

5th - 10th Grade STEM Education Teacher Professional Development - Stage

1

Welcome

Helios Education Foundation defines STEM education as an interdisciplinary approach to learning which removes the traditional barriers separating the four disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and integrates them into real world, rigorous and relevant learning experiences for students.

Recognizing that rigorous and relevant academics, particularly around math and science, and a lack of college awareness are often barriers to students reaching their potential, Helios Education Foundation focuses our investments in the transition years (grades 5 through 10) around increasing teacher and student knowledge in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM education) as well as fostering a college-going culture among all students, families and educators. Ultimately, our work is intended to help move students toward a successful transition between the various stages of education-elementary, middle school and high school-and go on to complete a postsecondary program. In order for students to be enrolled in accelerated STEM coursework and STEM career and technical programs, teachers need to participate in relevant and rigorous professional development focused on deepening their content knowledge and instructional skills in the middle grade science and mathematics courses.

Research supports a direct, positive correlation between the effectiveness of the teacher and student achievement. Our experience and staff expertise continues to point to a lack of high quality professional development opportunities for middle school and high school teachers in STEM education. The shortage of effective teachers in math and science education continues to result in low test scores for students, particularly underserved populations; less rigorous course taking by students, either due to a lack of qualified teacher or student preparation; and ill-prepared college-going students resulting in high levels of remedial course taking, which research evidence demonstrates leads to students not completing their postsecondary education.

The Request for Proposals is targeting programs specifically focused on and measuring improved knowledge and education in the area of STEM through professional development of teachers in grades 5 through 10. Applicants are encouraged to review the Foundation's proposal selection criteria which can be found at www.helios.org.

Please be advised that the online software does not allow detailed formatting or the ability to run a word count. Composing narrative answers in word processing software with minimal formatting and then transferring into the system will allow for word counts. Please save data frequently throughout the online application process. A blank application form can be printed by clicking on the Printer Friendly Version link at the top of the screen.

If you have questions or need technical support with the online application, please contact our Community Investment staff at (602) 381-2265 or investment@helios.org. You may also find helpful information on Helios' website at www.helios.org.

Thank you for your interest in partnering with Helios Education Foundation.

Organization Description

Please provide information pertaining to the presenting organization, which is the legally recognized corporate entity that would be responsible for Helios Education Foundation funds, should an investment be awarded. For example, if funds are being requested on behalf of a public institution, the supporting foundation (such as a University Foundation) should be represented in this section. Or, if funds are to be shared by a consortium, this section should reflect the lead organization acting as fiscal agent.

Is your organization designated as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt entity by the Internal Revenue Service, OR a public entity, such as a city or township?

Please select from one of the following

<None>

Tax ID

Enter the tax identification number of the organization applying for funds. If you are an educational institution that utilizes a foundation structure for accepting grants, the number entered should be that of the foundation.

Organization Name

Provide the name by which the organization is commonly known.

Legal Name

Enter the name by which the organization is legally recognized, if different than the name entered above. For public charities, this should be the name shown on your IRS tax determination letter.

Address

Enter the Address, City, State and Postal Code at which the organization receives postal mail in this and the following three fields.

City

State

<Select One>

Postal Code

Phone Number

Enter the main phone number of the organization, including area code. (Use only numerals and dashes in this data field. Do not use periods, parentheses, or spaces.)

Website

If the organization has a Website, enter the complete URL. For example, www.helios.org.

Leadership - First Name

Enter the First Name, Last Name, Title and e-mail address of the organization's chief professional officer in this and the following three fields, respectively. This is the information for the organization identified above that would serve as the fiscal agent for this project, if awarded.

Leadership - Last Name

Leadership - Professional Title

Leadership E-mail Address

Mission Statement

Provide a brief statement of purpose that is used publicly to describe the organization that will serve as the fiscal agent for this project, if awarded. (100 word limit)

Organization Description

Provide an overview of your organization, including a brief history, operating principles, and a list of recent accomplishments. If the presenting organization is a supporting entity, such as a school foundation, or the lead organization is acting as fiscal agent in a consortium or collaboration, provide an overview of all the key players in this project (500 word limit)

Project Overview

Use this section of the proposal form to provide a general overview of the project for which a Community Investment is requested.

Project Overview Primary Contact

If the Project Overview primary contact information is the same as above, please check the box.

Primary Contact - First Name

Enter the First Name, Last Name, Professional Title, Phone Number, and e-mail Address of the person who can best answer questions about the proposed project and this application here and in the following four fields, respectively.

Primary Contact - Last Name

Primary Contact - Professional Title

Primary Contact - Phone Number

(Use only numerals and dashes in this data field. Do not use periods, parentheses, or spaces.)

Primary Contact - Email Address

Project Title

Provide the name by which the project, program, or initiative is, or will be, known.

Project Summary

Provide a general description of the proposed project. Include information on STEM content, pedagogical knowledge and the education of STEM teachers and professionals.

Request Amount

What is the dollar investment you are requesting from Helios Education Foundation? (Do not enter a dollar sign, \$, in this field. Commas are acceptable.)

Grant Term

In months, specify the time span of the proposed project. For example, a two-year project would have a 24-month Grant Term. (Given the proposal process timeline, awards will not be announced, finalized or disbursed prior to May 2011).

Geographic Area

Describe the geographic area to be served by this project. National or regional organizations outside of the Tampa Bay area are required to identify a local partner within the Tampa Bay area. Note county, city and specific area, such as school district. (Limited to the Florida Tampa Bay area). (200 word limit)

Service Site Address

Provide the Address, City, State and Zip Code of the physical location at which this project will be implemented in the following four fields. If implementation will occur at multiple sites, provide a primary site address. If there is no primary site, enter "Multiple Locations." Note that mail will NOT be sent to this address; it is used solely for site visit purposes.

Service Site City

Service Site State

<None>

Service Site Zip Code