X-STEM Fellowship Program Information - August 2024/ May 2025

As educators, you play a crucial role in shaping the future of your students. The X-STEM Fellowship Program is curated for passionate and visionary educators who are committed to making an impact on the next generation. We invite dedicated individuals, with the qualifications to meet our program requirements, to join our community of fellows. If you are eager to showcase your enthusiasm for pushing the boundaries of STEM education, we encourage you to explore the opportunities offered by this program.

The X-STEM Fellowship program has been developed in cooperation with the National Imperative for Industrial Skills (NIIS), an initiative of the U.S. Department of Defense. The Skills Imperative is a call to action to strengthen our economic and national security. The primary objective is to enhance 8-12th grade students' awareness, knowledge, and interest in civilian (non-military) Defense Industry Base (DIB) sector careers such as engineering, advanced manufacturing, metrology, cybersecurity, and many more STEM-focused fields. This would be accomplished by educating students, teachers, and parents about the needs and opportunities that are not readily known or promoted through conventional career educational services. This program will address the critical nature of the nation's civilian defense industries workforce shortage and aims to inspire youth to follow a path toward DIB-focused careers.

- Developed specifically for NIIS (National Imperative for Industrial Skills)
- Limited to qualified and invested educators by application only
- Classroom content that builds on the impact of X-STEM All Access episodes, NGSS/CASEL aligned lesson plans, and the experience at the X-STEM Workshop event
- Survey and impact data provided each semester

Applicant Qualifications:

- Must be currently employed as an educator and working in the classroom with students in grades 8-12
- Must be committed to fulfilling all Program Requirements as outlined for the 2024/2025 school year
- Two - three educators may apply as a team sharing in all requirements/ benefits
- Available to connect via Zoom between April 8–May 1, 2024

Program Requirements:
Each X-STEM Fellow/team will:

- Commit to involve 30-90* students in the program per semester
- Attend two kick-off meetings held in fall '24 and spring '25
- Attend one X-STEM workshop event with approx 90 students held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at the Von Braun Center 9:30am - 2pm
- Each semester X-STEM Fellows/teams will agree to execute the syllabus made up of (5) 5-E lesson plans/in-class activities and survey/data requirements in a timely manner in exchange for the benefits described
- All PUBLIC facing social accounts must remain free of inflammatory or divisive content throughout the program
- Option to have (1) dedicated class day to a guest speaker/presentation by a STEM professional

Benefits of Being Chosen as an X-STEM Fellow:

- $1000-$3000 stipend* to each X-STEM Fellow/team for completing all activities and post activity recaps/surveys
- Provided each semester with (5) DIB-topic NGSS and CASEL aligned lesson plans and the materials to conduct the associated hands-on activities
- Logistical support
- PocketLab Voyager sensors (1 per 9 students = $2000 value)
- In-class presentations by local DIB professionals
- Free attendance to the all-day X-STEM Workshop event for you and your students
- Each semester, attend X-STEM Fellowship kick-off dinner and leave with all the supplies and NGSS aligned lesson plans necessary to conduct (4) additional hands-on activities in the classroom
- Option to have a special speaker/demonstration in the classroom from a DIB STEM professional each semester

Feel free to contact Christina with any questions at Christina@usasciencefestival.org

X-STEM Fellowship Application Form - Huntsville 2024/2025 must be submitted by **April 7, 2024.** A PDF of the questions can be reviewed before filling out the form.

*Stipend amount based upon number of students involved