



New Jersey STEM Innovation Fellowship in Science

Statement of Assurance - AY2022/2023

Section 1 - Applicant Information

Applicant's Full Name: _____

School Name: _____ District Superintendent/Supervisor: _____

Provide this form to the appropriate school building leader (e.g., principal) and district superintendent/supervisor. The form serves as a reference and statement of assurance that you will have the support of your school building and district leadership to complete fellowship activities and requirements.

Once the form has been completed, it must be scanned and emailed by either the school building or district superintendent/supervisor to apply@innovateSTEMnj.org by **9:00PM (EST) on April 22, 2022** (include the applicant's full name in the subject line).

FERPA Acknowledgement

I am aware of the rights afforded to me by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. By signing below, I hereby waive my right to examine the contents of this reference. My signature also confirms my understanding that by waiving my right, I do so under the condition that the reference is used solely for the purpose for which it is requested.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Section 2 - School Building and School District Superintendent/Supervisor

The applicant named above is applying to the **New Jersey STEM Innovation Fellowship** in science, an exciting new teacher-leadership program lead by Montclair State University. Additional information regarding the NJ STEM Science Fellowship can be found at: www.innovateSTEMnj.org.

The overall goal of the fellowship is to provide talented educators across the state with an opportunity to lead the implementation and expansion of a proven, innovative, research-based science teaching practice. To participate, applicants must receive approval and support from their school building and district superintendent/supervisor to engage in the teaching practice with their students. Any questions or concerns can be directed to: apply@innovateSTEMnj.org.

If accepted, the applicant will:

- Learn about Ambitious Science Teaching (AST), an innovative approach to science teaching grounded in eliciting students' ideas and supporting student sensemaking with NGSS three-dimensional science, alongside talented educators from other New Jersey districts and schools.
- Engage in AST practices on a regular basis with their students; implementing AST templates in their classrooms to engage students in developing explanatory models.
- Work together in teams, consisting of three teachers from their school/district.
- Engage in a community of practice to be reflective about the use of explanatory models by analyzing student work and classroom videos*.
- Facilitate productive student-to-student discourse around big science ideas.
- Discuss videos guided by an expert facilitator in supportive, monthly, after school, professional learning communities hosted at Montclair State University and virtually.
- Receive training from experienced teacher-educators about how to support other educators (non-fellows) interested in engaging with AST in their classrooms.

**NOTE: all district requirements for obtaining classroom video with parental consent will be followed.*



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Name of Applicant (please print): _____

School Building Leader

As the school building leader, please indicate how you rate the applicant on the following abilities:

The applicant's **overall ability** as a teacher of science?

Very High _____ High _____ Average _____ Low _____ Very Low _____

The applicant's **overall ability** to collaborate with other educators?

Very High _____ High _____ Average _____ Low _____ Very Low _____

If the applicant is accepted to the New Jersey STEM Innovation Fellowship, do you agree to support their efforts to implement Ambitious Science Teaching practices regularly during the school year alongside your existing science program and curricula?

Yes _____ No _____

School Building Leader's Title: _____

Building Leader's Name (please print): _____

Building Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

School District Superintendent/Supervisor

If the applicant is accepted to the New Jersey STEM Innovation Fellowship, do you agree to support their efforts to implement Ambitious Science Teaching practices regularly during the school year alongside your existing science program and curricula?

Yes _____ No _____

Superintendent/Supervisor's Title: _____

Superintendent/Supervisor's Name (please print): _____

Superintendent/Supervisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

To submit this form on behalf of the applicant, the school district superintendent/supervisor must scan and email the entire form, with the applicant's full name in the subject line, to apply@innovateSTEMnj.org by 9:00PM (EST) on April 22, 2022.