



The following definitions and program inclusion criteria were provided to federal agencies in order to populate the list of STEM education programs being surveyed through this questionnaire:

We are defining *STEM education program* as a program that includes one or more of the following as a **primary** objective:

- Attract or prepare students to pursue classes or coursework in STEM areas through formal or informal education activities; (Informal education programs provide support for activities provided by a variety of organizations that offer students learning opportunities outside of formal schooling through contests, science fairs, summer programs, and other means. Outreach programs targeted to the general public, should not be considered a STEM education program.)
- Attract students to pursue degrees (2-year, 4-year, graduate, or doctoral degrees) in STEM fields through formal or informal education activities;
- Provide training opportunities for undergraduate or graduate students in STEM fields; (This can include grants, fellowships, internships, and traineeships that are targeted to students. General research grants that are targeted to researchers that may hire a student to work in the lab should not be considered a STEM education program.)
- Attract graduates to pursue careers in STEM fields;
- Improve teacher (pre-service or in-service) education in STEM areas;
- Improve or expand the capacity of K-12 schools or postsecondary institutions to promote or foster education in STEM fields; and
- Conduct research to enhance the quality of STEM education provided to students.

For the purposes of this study, the term *STEM education program* refers to an organized set of activities supported by a congressional appropriation or allocation. Further, the program should be considered as a single program even when the funds are subsequently allocated to others. Please include programs that received one-time, limited funds in the fiscal year 2010, which includes earmarked funds. Programs may provide, but are not limited to, funding for grants, fellowships, internships, and traineeships. While programs designed to retain current employees in STEM fields should not be included, programs that fund retraining of workers to pursue a degree in a STEM field should be included.

Also, please note that STEM fields would include healthcare professionals who work in or students who train for careers that primarily work in scientific research. Healthcare professionals who work in or students who train for careers that primarily work in patient care should NOT be considered STEM (Note: this would apply to such professions as nurses, doctors, dentists, psychologists, or veterinarians).