



CINSAM: Center for Integrative  
Natural Science and Mathematics



**Ohio STEM / STEAM Teachers  
Professional Learning Community (PLC)**

# Applications for the 2019-20 PLC

Release Date: May 16, 2019

Greater Cincinnati STEM Collaborative (GCSC) helps prepare students for their futures and to join Greater Cincinnati’s workforce through connected, robust STEM learning pathways. STEM learning is propelled by business, education, community collaboration and our culture of incubation, acceleration, and inclusion.

Our vision is that Greater Cincinnati continues its growth as a technologically rich, vibrant community with the most talented STEM workforce in the country that is representative of the region’s population. GCSC prioritizes organizations serving students underrepresented in STEM (low-income students, girls, and students of color – African American, Latino/Hispanic, mixed race) for direct funding and support.

**All applications must be submitted by Monday July 15, 2019**

## Ohio STEM / STEAM Teachers Professional Learning Community (PLC)

The Ohio STEM / STEAM Teachers Professional Learning Community (PLC) is a collaborative program of Northern Kentucky University’s (NKU) CINSAM (Center for Integrative Natural Science and Mathematics) and GCSC. It builds on NKU CINSAM’s highly successful STEM education Professional Development program, the Next Generation STEM Classroom (ngSC)<sup>1</sup> and ran for the first time for Ohio teachers during the 2018-2019 school year.

Due to the generosity of Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, who funds programs throughout Ohio (yet only Ohio), the program will support a second cohort of 25 Ohio 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers during the 2019-2020 school year<sup>2</sup>. Read more about the PLC [here](#).

### Timeline

Milestone	Date
Application window opens	May 16, 2019
Applications due	July 15, 2019
Recipients announced	August 15, 2019
PLC launch	September 19, 2019 (9:00am – 3:30pm @ <a href="#">NKU / UC STEM Conference</a> hosted at NKU)
PLC Fishbowl experiences	October 15, 2019 December 10, 2019 February 18, 2020 <i>Locations to-be-determined; will be centrally located in</i>
Final PLC session, including debrief	March 5, 2020 @ University of Cincinnati

<sup>1</sup> Kentucky teachers can learn more about the NKU CINSAM program by contacting Ella Bowling at [bowlinge6@nku.edu](mailto:bowlinge6@nku.edu)

<sup>2</sup> Indiana teachers interested in a similar program are asked to contact GCSC at [gscstemed@gmail.com](mailto:gscstemed@gmail.com)

## Submitting Your Application

[Use this link to submit your application](#)

Once you're on the application site:

1. Make an account or sign in.
2. Begin filling out your information.
3. If you want to save a draft, scroll to the bottom of the application and click the "Save Draft" button. Access draft by logging into [submittable.com](http://submittable.com), clicking the drop-down menu on the top right by your name, clicking "My Submissions," selecting "Saved Drafts" from the top bar, then clicking "Continue."
4. When your application is complete, click the orange Submit button. You will receive an email confirming your application has been received.

NOTE: Teachers from the same school / district are encouraged to collaboratively develop and submit applications.

## Cohort Selection Principles

1. **Inclusion and Access:** GCSC will award selections disproportionately to educators serving students who are underrepresented in STEM (low-income students, girls, and students of color – African American, Latino/Hispanic, mixed race). GCSC will award selections broadly across the region, while meeting other principles.
2. **Readiness & Commitment:** Teachers and their school administration must be committed to collaborate with GCSC and community volunteers to:
  - Maximize and measure positive student impacts through implementation of teacher learning in the classroom.
  - Share the impact of the project on teacher/student success.
3. **STEM engagement best practices:** Teachers will successfully employ [STEM Engagement Best Practices](#).
4. **Sustainability:** GCSC prioritizes applicants who:
  - Will maximize the subsequent use of resources and knowledge gained in Ohio STEM PLC during the 2020-2021 school year.
  - Leverage the PLC to create / support / nurture collaborative teacher teams within schools and districts.
5. **Innovation:** This project's goal is to support new, innovative approaches to using [STEM Engagement Best Practices](#) in the classroom as learned through the PLC experience.
6. **Funder / Sponsor Priority:** Current program funder provides funding throughout Ohio, yet only for Ohio.

## Resources Provided Through the Ohio STEM PLC

1. Curriculum aligned to Ohio Science Standards for grades 4-6 with complete lesson plans, student activities, etc. that can be easily implemented in the classroom.
2. Professional Development (PD) / training and consultation for all teacher participants.
3. Follow-up and consultation availability by the PLC's NKU master teachers to all cohort participants.

## "Thought Starter" Resources

[Attracting Volunteers](#)

[Family Involvement](#)

## Questions?

Contact GCSC at [gscstemed@gmail.com](mailto:gscstemed@gmail.com) if more information is needed to complete an application. Inquiries should include a description of the information needed and full contact information (name, organization, email address, and phone number).

## Application Questions List

1. Teacher Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)
2. Teacher Email
3. Teacher Phone

4. Teacher Address
5. # of Years Teaching Experience
6. School
7. School District
8. School Address
9. Grade Level Teaching / Taught: 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, or 6<sup>th</sup>
10. Principal's / District Administrator's Name
11. Principal's / District Administrator's Email
12. What is your school's service area (city/township/village/community)?
13. In what county/counties does your school/school district operate?
14. What percentage of your students are from a low-income background (reduced / free lunch eligible)? Describe these students.
15. In what ways are you currently integrating science standards-based teaching or STE(A)M Teaching in your classroom?
16. How will you leverage the resources and knowledge gained from participation in the GCSC Ohio STEM PLC throughout the school year?
17. How will participating in the GCSC Ohio STEM PLC impact your professional growth and student learning in your classroom?
18. What is your favorite STEM/science lesson that you taught in your classroom? How did your students respond? Why is this your favorite example of what a good STEM lesson looks like?
19. We are also looking for teachers to consider stepping into the role of a trainer for this PD model. Would becoming one of these individuals in the future interest you? If Yes, what experience do you have in delivering professional development/training to teachers? Give an example of your experience in this area.
20. Please upload a letter of support from your school principal / district administrator.
21. Thank you for your interest in the Ohio STEM / STEAM PLC. Use this box if you have additional information to share regarding your application.