

Dear [Principal's Name],

I am writing to express my eagerness to attend an upcoming AMTA Modeling Workshop. This professional development opportunity, facilitated by the American Modeling Teachers Association (AMTA). Modeling Workshops™ focus on empowering STEM teachers with Modeling Instruction™. My participation will grow my ability to provide a learning environment in which my students actively engage in the Science and Engineering Practices (SEP) of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Participating in an AMTA Modeling Workshop will offer me an opportunity to learn about and practice a guided inquiry approach in my classroom. These workshops provide comprehensive coverage of research proven pedagogy and a deep treatment of content. The Modeling Cycle provides the organization of learning during which students build and deploy conceptual models. Most units begin with a common experience so that all students have a shared reference point, promoting equity. Students then represent their thinking on whiteboards using multiple representations. These white boards provide the foundation of a student centered classroom that promotes student discourse founded on student thinking as well as their questions which increases students' sense of belonging and inclusion.

I am convinced that participation in this workshop will greatly benefit our school's STEM education and promote DEIB. However, the associated costs present a financial challenge for me. Therefore, I am seeking financial support to cover workshop fees as well as travel and lodging expenses. Modeling Workshops qualify for graduate credit with the University of Pacific for \$79/credit.

In addition to the outlined benefits, Modeling Workshops address the shortcomings of traditional instruction. Research indicates that failures in traditional instruction are largely independent of the instructor's knowledge, experience, and teaching style. Modeling Workshops offer a transformative approach to overcome these challenges, providing a more effective and engaging learning experience for students.

For further details on the research supporting the effectiveness of Modeling Workshops, please visit <https://www.modelinginstruction.org/effective/>.

I kindly request your consideration of providing financial support for the AMTA Modeling Workshop. I am open to discussing this further in person and am committed to sharing the knowledge gained with our teaching community..

Sincerely,

[Your Name] [Your Title] [Your School]