

2025-2026 STEM School of Excellence Postsecondary Application

Applications are due by Friday, December 4th, 2026

ITEEA's STEM Center for Teaching and Learning™ (STEM CTL) annually recognizes outstanding schools for their commitment to providing a robust Integrative STEM education experience through the STEM School of Excellence Recognition Program.

This special designation was created to celebrate those schools whose teachers, administrators, and other stakeholders are providing a meaningful STEM education experience for students and to inspire others to learn effective best practices and instructional strategies to enhance their own programs.

To apply, schools must complete a rigorous application with detailed documentation to demonstrate a strong Integrative STEM program, which is then reviewed by a panel of peers. Following review, schools may be awarded one of the following levels of recognition:

- ITEEA STEM School of Excellence (300+ points)
- ITEEA STEM School of Merit (175-299 points)

Notes:

- Questions with * are required; other questions are optional.
 - Unless noted otherwise, additional points will not be awarded for more than one submission per item.
 - Supporting photos are encouraged to provide additional clarification of your descriptions provided; where stated, photos are eligible for additional points. **Photos must be submitted via a cloud-based link with view access.**
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Postsecondary and Staff Information

1. STEM Instructor/Professor/Coordinator's Name*:
2. STEM Instructor/Professor/Coordinator's Title*:
3. STEM Instructor/Professor/Coordinator's Email*:
4. STEM Instructor/Professor/Coordinator's Phone Number*:
5. Dean (or Equivalent) Name*:
6. Dean (or Equivalent) Email*:
7. Postsecondary President's Name*:
8. Postsecondary President's Email*:
9. Postsecondary Intuitions' Name*:
10. Postsecondary Intuition's Mailing Address (mailing address, city, state, zip code)*:

Qualifying Activities

Provide details and documentation for the activities and initiatives in which your Postsecondary institution participated during **the most recent academic year**. Required documentation should be fully included within **this form** to receive credit.

1. Postsecondary graduates produced in a STEM career pathway.
 - a. Describe STEM career graduation requirements and numbers of graduates. **[30 pts] 500 words max.**

2. Postsecondary organized and/or participated in a STEM outreach or community service project, preferably with a local PreK-12 school.
 - a. Describe STEM outreach or community service project. **[20 pts] 500 words max.**
 - b. Insert photo(s) of STEM outreach or community service project. **[10 pts] (must be a cloud-based link with view access)**

3. Two or more instructors/professors collaborated on an integrative STEM project.
 - a. List instructors/professors' names and subject areas, and describe collaborative, integrative STEM project, focusing on the integrative nature of the teaching and learning. **[20 pts] 500 words max.**
 - b. Insert photo(s) of collaborative, integrative STEM project. **[10 pts] (must be a cloud-based link with view access)**

4. Postsecondary hosted and/or sponsored a family-oriented STEM event.
 - a. Describe family-oriented STEM event. **[20 pts] 500 words max.**
 - b. Insert photo(s) of family-oriented STEM event. **[10 pts] (must be a cloud-based link with view access)**

5. Postsecondary hosted and/or sponsored a STEM Career Fair or similar event.
 - a. Describe STEM Career Fair or similar event(s). **[20 pts] 500 words max.**
 - b. Insert photo(s) of STEM Career Fair or similar event. **[10 pts] (must be a cloud-based link with view access)**
6. Instructor(s)/professor(s) presented a STEM-related session at the 2026 ITEEA Annual Conference in Virginia Beach, VA or a similar National or International Conference. Provide conference name, date of presentation, presentation title, and name(s) of presenter(s). **[20 pts]**
7. Instructor(s)/professor(s) participated in the STEM Showcase at the 2026 ITEEA Annual Conference in Virginia Beach, VA. Provide name(s) of presenter(s) and title of presentation. **[20 pts]**
8. Teacher(s)/administrator(s) presented a STEM-related session at the ITEEA 2026 Fall Forum or at a similar virtual event. Provide event name, presentation title, and name(s) of presenter(s). **[20 pts]**
9. Instructor(s)/professor(s) published an article or manuscript in a peer-reviewed journal in the past three years. Provide complete citation, article URL, or other publication identifier. **[20 pts]**
10. School news or events were publicized on [ITEEA's News webpage](#) or in [ITEEA's STEM Connections newsletter](#). Provide date and title of post and description of publicized news or event. **[20 pts]**

11. Instructor(s)/professor(s) actively sought out research opportunities, e.g., submitted a grant proposal related to [Standards for Technological and Engineering Literacy \(STEL\)](#), to advance the technology and engineering education profession. Provide participant name, research opportunity, and link to proposal, if available. **[20 pts]**
12. Postsecondary had an active STEM-related student organization chapter, e.g., [Technology and Engineering Education Collegiate Association \(TEECA\)](#). Provide student organization name, chapter advisor name, and chapter number (or another identifier). **[20 pts]**
13. Preservice teachers participated in a STEM-related student organization, e.g., [Technology and Engineering Education Collegiate Association \(TEECA\)](#), competition or event. Provide student organization name, chapter advisor name, and name and date of competition or event. **[20 pts]**
14. Postsecondary had an active honor society chapter, e.g., [National STEM Honor Society](#) or [Epsilon Pi Tau](#). Provide honor society organization, chapter advisor name, and chapter number (or another identifier). **[20 pts for each]**
15. Instructor(s)/professor(s) participated in an [ITEEA STEM CTL™ professional learning by Design](#) event, e.g. virtual workshop, microbadge, asynchronous training, or in-person workshop. Provide instructor/professor's name and date and title of event. **[20 pts]**
16. Postsecondary adopted safety protocols – a standard operating procedure for the STEM lab that may include a safety manual, safety rules, HAZMAT sheets, procedures should an accident occur – for your STEM lab and post it in your lab and/or on your College/University's website. Provide your safety protocol document(s). **[20 pts]**
(must be a cloud-based link with view access)

17. Postsecondary introduced and/or used the Engineering byDesign curriculum in at least one pre-service course. List student's name(s) and course(s) accessed. **[20 pts]**

18. Describe how your curriculum addresses each of the eight Standards from ITEEA's [*Standards of Technological and Engineering Literacy \(STEL\)*](#). Include links to lesson plans or activities developed by preservice teachers, if available. **[10 pts each] 500 words max. per standard**

- a. The Nature and Characteristics of Technology and Engineering
- b. Core Concepts of Technology and Engineering
- c. Integration of Knowledge, Technologies, and Practices
- d. Impacts of Technology
- e. Influence of Society on Technological Development
- f. History of Technology
- g. Design in Technology and Engineering
- h. Applying, Maintaining, and Assessing Technological Products and Systems

19. Postsecondary has an active [ITEEA Institutional Membership](#) and/or at least one instructor or professor has an active individual [ITEEA Professional Membership](#) at the time of application. For individual memberships, provide member name(s). **[20 pts]**

Video Submission

Develop and submit a video that showcases your Postsecondary as a STEM School of Excellence candidate. Sample videos are available on the [STEM School of Excellence webpage](#) and may include interviews with your Dean, Professor, and/or students discussing your program; showcase of projects from school; and/or a recording from a STEM event you hosted. Insert a link to your video via Google Drive, Dropbox, YouTube, etc. **[30 pts] (must be a cloud-based link with view access)**

Pay Application Fee*

Prior to submission, you must [request an invoice for or pay the STEM School of Excellence application fee](#) (ITEEA Members: \$195.00; Non-Members: \$295.00).

Enter your 5-digit invoice number below.

[Completed Application must be submitted by the deadline here](#)