



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 4, 2023
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Principals, Staff Involved with Educator Recognition
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services
Deadline: February 6, 2024

Nominations Sought for the 2023-2024 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is currently accepting nominations and applications for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). PAEMST is the highest recognition that a Kindergarten through 12th grade science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science educator may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. Since 1983, more than 5,200 teachers have been recognized for their contributions to mathematics and science education. Up to 110 awardees may be recognized each year.

Presidential awardees receive a certificate signed by the President of the United States; a trip to Washington, D.C. to attend a series of recognition events and professional development opportunities; and a \$10,000 award from NSF. They also join a prestigious network of award-winning teachers from across the country.

Anyone – including principals, teachers, parents, students, or members of the general public – may nominate a teacher by completing the nomination form at www.paemst.org. Teachers may also initiate the application process themselves. To submit a nomination, you will need the teacher's name, email address, and school contact information.

An applicant must:

- Teach science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science as part of their contracted teaching responsibilities at the K-6 grade level in a public (including charter) or private school (Grade levels 7-12 will be eligible to apply during the following cycle);
- Hold at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution;
- Be a full-time employee of the school or school district as determined by state/jurisdiction and district policies, with responsibilities for teaching students no less than 50% of the school's allotted instructional time;
- Have at least five years of full-time employment as a K-12 teacher during which science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science has been a part of the applicant's teaching duties prior to the 2023-2024 academic school year;
- Teach in one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Department of Defense Education Activity schools, or the U.S. Territories as a group (American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and U.S. Virgin Islands);
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident; and
- Not have received the PAEMST award at the national level in any prior competition or category.

The nomination deadline is January 8, 2024, and the application deadline is February 6, 2024.

Contact Information

For questions, please contact LaShona Burkes, Ph.D., at lashona.burkes@doe.nj.gov. As always, the New Jersey Department of Education appreciates all collaboration in nationally recognizing the great work of New Jersey's outstanding STEAM teachers.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group