

**GREATNESS<sup>®</sup>**  
**STEMS**  
FROM IOWANS

**Drake**  
UNIVERSITY  
SOUTH CENTRAL IOWA REGION  
GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL



# Apply Now: STEM BEST

Applications Due: May 15, 2020



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**STEM BEST<sup>®</sup>**

For more information, visit:  
[www.iowaSTEM.gov/STEMBEST](http://www.iowaSTEM.gov/STEMBEST)



The STEM BEST® Program provides up to \$25,000 to Iowa public and non-public school districts and buildings for models that demonstrate business-education partnerships and provide work-based learning experiences for students.



Working side-by-side, teachers and industry professionals will craft curriculum and projects that prepare students for exciting career pathways in STEM fields.



A 1:1 match of cash and/or in-kind support is required and can be contributed by the applicant or a community partner.



Over 1,300 partnerships have been created through this program. Identifying key players and forming a team to identify the needs in your community is the first step.



Past STEM BEST® award recipients are eligible to apply for expanding current programs. Connect with your Regional STEM Manager to learn more.

For additional information and resources, such as the timeline, application criteria, tips, examples and more, visit [www.IowaSTEM.gov/STEMBEST](http://www.IowaSTEM.gov/STEMBEST).

## Start Your Application Here

**To date, 63 STEM BEST® Programs have been awarded throughout Iowa, and the next one could be you!**

The goal of the STEM BEST Program is to unite educators and employers to expand and invigorate learning, creating a bridge between preK-12, post-secondary, and community careers. Working side-by-side, educators and industry professionals will craft curriculum and projects that prepare students for an exciting future.

The program features flexible funding can be used to explore potential, create programs, or expand existing successes. As districts venture down this path, mentor schools around the state are happy to share what the program looks like for their students. In addition, regional managers and advisory board members are here to help. Contact Dr. Sarah Derry if you are in need of a jump start: [sarah.derry@drake.edu](mailto:sarah.derry@drake.edu). Please put STEM BEST INQUIRY in the subject line.

## Application and Program Timeline

February 10, 2020: Application portal opens

May 15, 2020: Application due

July 2020: Awards Announced

August 1, 2020 - June 15, 2021: Planning and Implementation



*Opportunities abound...*

# Scale-Up Applications Due March 2

Apply for the Scale-Up Program to receive vetted STEM materials and professional development. Teachers report Scale-Ups are easy to integrate into existing curriculum and correlate to core standards in the areas of science, social studies, math, engineering, technology, literacy and more.

### Scale-Up Program Timeline

- Educator application period: January 21 – March 2
- Review period: March 3 – April 6
- Awardees notified: April 7
- Implementation: July 1 – May 31

### Who can apply?

PreK-12 cross-curricular educators, both in and out of the classroom, are eligible to apply, so long as they have undergone a criminal background check as a requirement of employment. Eligible applicant(s) include public and private school PreK-12 teachers, youth organization leaders, informal education professionals, home school associations and others who deliver STEM education programming. Every applicant must secure the commitment and signature of the institution's lead administrator(s).

### Rubric:

Begin with the end in mind. Before you write, check out how awards will be decided by reading through the rubric. Click **HERE** to view.



## To learn more:

Visit the Iowa STEM website: <https://iowastem.gov/Scale-Up-Application>.

If you have questions or need additional support, please contact Dr. Sarah Derry at [scstemhub@drake.edu](mailto:scstemhub@drake.edu).

Click [HERE](#) to get started!

# Seeking Exhibitors! STEM Festivals

## Iowa Dept. for the Blind STEM Fest



**IOWA DEPARTMENT FOR THE BLIND**  
**STEM FEST**

February 29, 2020  
2:00 - 4:00 pm  
Iowa Department for the Blind  
524 4th St., Des Moines, IA 50309

- FREE and OPEN to the PUBLIC!
- STUDENTS and FAMILIES are invited to a festival full of ACTIVITIES and EXHIBITS designed to EXPLORE, CREATE, MAKE, and LEARN more exciting opportunities in STEM areas.
- All EXHIBITS, MATERIALS and HANDOUTS made with the principles of UNIVERSAL DESIGN in mind.

Scan QR Code  
Or sign-up via link:  
<https://scstemhub.drake.edu/festivals/>

We're partnering with The Iowa Department for the Blind to host a special STEM fest. We are expecting about 150 students and families. Members of the public are also invited.

Tyler Swett can help with planning activities that are accessible for all and translating to Braille. His email is [Tyler.Swett@blind.state.ia.us](mailto:Tyler.Swett@blind.state.ia.us).

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 29, 2020

**TIME:** 2-4 pm

**SET-UP:** 1 pm

**WHERE:** Iowa Department for the Blind  
(524 4th Ave., Des Moines, IA)

**EXHIBIT:** <https://forms.gle/H9pbfMEDL88GqRJ98>

**ATTEND:** No registration necessary; open to all!

## Lucas County STEAM Festival

Calling all business, organizations and families in Lucas County. This event is a celebration for the whole community.

**WHEN:** Thursday March 26, 2020

**TIME:** 5-7 pm SET-UP: 4 pm

(organizers onsite from 1 p.m. on)

**WHERE:** Chariton Community Center  
(915 Osage Avenue, Chariton, IA)



**Lucas County STEAM Fest**

**REGISTER TODAY!**

Scan QR Code  
Or sign-up via link:  
<https://scstemhub.drake.edu/festivals/>

**Save the date!** March 26, 2020, 5:00 - 7:00 pm  
Hot dogs start at 4:30

**Where:** Chariton Community Center  
915 Osage Avenue, Chariton, IA

**Questions:** Email Ronda at [rmorrett@iastate.edu](mailto:rmorrett@iastate.edu)

PreK-8 STUDENTS and FAMILIES are invited to a festival full of ACTIVITIES and EXHIBITS designed to EXPLORE, CREATE, MAKE, and LEARN more exciting opportunities in STEAM areas.

Photos courtesy of Broder Hewitt Photography

Click [HERE](#) to register to attend the event as an **ATTENDEE**.

- Share the info with your class or school.
- If you register a scout troop or club, just list the adult(s) and total number who will attend with you.

Click **HERE** to register as an **EXHIBITOR**.

- We're happy to help brainstorm activity ideas.

Click **HERE** to register as an **EVENT VOLUNTEER**.

- High school volunteers are often eligible for Silver Cord hours.
- We do have assigned jobs on the sign-up, but note you may be pulled in lots of fun, busy directions.
- Please bring your slip to the festival for us to sign.

## Want more STEM? Get social:



**Dr. Sarah Derry**, SC Regional Manager

**Phone:** 515-271-2403

**Website:** <https://scstemhub.drake.edu/>

**Email:** [scstemhub@drake.edu](mailto:scstemhub@drake.edu)

**Calendar:** Calendar of Events

**Hashtag:** #STEMinYourWorld