



SYLVIA SHUGRUE AWARD FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

PROGRAM SUMMARY

This award honors one elementary school teacher who has established (or is establishing) an interdisciplinary, inquiry-based lesson plan. The lesson plan will fully reference sources of information and any relevant Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and benchmarks found in The Atlas of Science Literacy. Award recipients agree to:

- ★ Correspond by email, and possibly other means, with elementary science teachers to share experiences and information related to lessons selected
- ★ Encourage students to share their work on the project with children in schools around the world, via Internet and other means.
- ★ Cooperate with NSTA as this information is collected in ways designed to improve the teaching of science in elementary school.

AWARD

The award consists of \$1,000 and up to \$500 to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education. The winning selection will become part of the NSTA Web site and thus available for use by other elementary teachers and students.

ELIGIBILITY

Elementary school teachers (grades K–6) Applicants must be a full-time teacher with a minimum of five years of experience. Must be an NSTA member in good standing.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

Excellence in teaching that reflects the NGSS is the main criterion for selection of recipients. Among the criteria to be considered by the committee are:

- ★ Effective planning skills as indicated by an interdisciplinary/inquiry-based lesson that includes:
 - a. learning objectives
 - b. procedures
 - c. quality assessment
 - d. samples of student work (limit of 3 pages)
- ★ Ability to motivate & challenge students
- ★ Proper assessment
- ★ Proficiency in science and science education (e.g. publications, presentations)
- ★ Proper safety procedures employed
- ★ Reflects NGSS

AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- ★ A narrative describing the nominee's extraordinary science teaching, not to exceed 250 words.
- ★ A lesson plan (three pages maximum) meeting the objectives described above, along with examples of student work representative of that lesson. You may attach five (5) digital photographs.

- ★ Two letters of support from individuals and/or groups who are familiar with the work of the applicant. Letters should not exceed three pages each. Letters of support should accompany packet. Letters sent separately will not be considered
- ★ Attach a curriculum vita, not exceeding five pages, which includes a brief description of your teaching experience and previous awards and recognition.
- ★ All correspondence must be in 12 point Times New Roman font

Checklist Prior to Uploading Application

Occasionally we receive entries that are incomplete or in which the applicant did not follow the specified guidelines. Entries that do not follow the stated rules for submission are disqualified, regardless of the merit or innovation of the entry. Make sure you and a colleague review the checklist below before sending in your application so you can ensure that your efforts will not be disqualified. Ensure that your application communicates the information you intend. Don't forget to check for correct spelling.

You will be asked to submit the following components when applying:

- NSTA Member #
- Principal/Supervisor's Name, email and phone #
- Narrative
- Lesson plan and assessment tools, three-page maximum
- Letters of support
- Curriculum vita/resume

Please be advised that you may apply for more than one award; however, you are eligible to win only one NSTA award per year. Each application must be based on a unique program and process. Submission of the same idea and materials to different NSTA award programs will result in the disqualification of all applications. If your idea or project has received an NSTA award in the past, that idea or project is not eligible to receive an additional award.

If you are selected to receive an award, NSTA must request and receive your social security number to issue a 1099 form to you. If your program is currently grant funded, confirm that you, as an individual, are eligible to receive a cash award. If you have received an award for this project from another provider, you must notify NSTA.

Please note that, for security purposes, this online application form has a 2-hour time limit. If you are inactive for the maximum time, you will be automatically logged out of the system. You may log back in with your username (email address) and password. At any time during the application process, you may click the Save & Logout button, located at the top of every screen. This will save the information you have entered thus far and allow you to log back in to complete your form at a later date.

Upon receipt, all submissions become the property of NSTA. Applications will not be returned. Late or faxed applications will not be accepted. Completed applications must be received by December 19th. Applications may only be submitted via the online submission form found at <https://www.nsta.org/awards>. Questions? Please feel free to e-mail awards@nsta.org.