2024 Advancing STEM Research Teaching (ASRT) Application for Science Fair Directors

*** This version of the application is ONLY for FAIR DIRECTORS of Science Fairs/Research Competitions

If you are a High School Teacher and are interested in applying for the ASRT program, please use the other link found in the original email or contact STEMResearchConsulting@gmail.com to receive the information and link.

The Advancing STEM Research Teaching Program:

- is a 4-5 day, in-person, professional development workshop focused on curriculum, activities, and guides to support high school teachers involved in providing science/STEM research opportunities for their students.
- is FREE, thanks to funding from Regeneron and Carl Zeiss Microscopy.
- takes place at a location that you choose, which is typically in/near your school/office or where your science fair is hosted.
- is typically 4.5 days of in-person professional development during the summer months, with follow-up support, as needed, via Zoom during the school year. If it is held during the school year, then it is typically a 3 - 3.5 day in-person workshop followed up by online sessions during the school year.
- provides a curriculum, filled with numerous activities and guides that can be customized by teachers who provide research opportunities within a traditional STEM classroom setting, or those with a small, growing research program/club, or even those with more established Science Research Programs/Clubs
- is customized to help high school teachers, involved with providing STEM research opportunities for their students, to reach their goals and overcome obstacles specific to their school/region
- provides information and insight regarding all stages of the student research process and the opportunities for students to present in public, including in science fairs and other competitive/non-competitive venues
- has helped teachers/Fair Directors from urban, suburban, and rural areas and from a wide variety of states including Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, New Mexico, New York,

The ASRT Application:

- launches in October and closes on November 13, 2023.
- is open to all High School Teachers who support students involved in science/STEM research projects from small, medium or large schools.
- is open to all Science Fair Directors, from small, medium or large, science fairs, that would like to bring together a group of high school, and potentially middle school, teachers (up to 20), for a week of FREE, customizable, professional development (the Science Fair Director is responsible for organizing the group and providing a location for the ASRT workshop in their region).

This application is only for Science Fair Directors. If you are applying as a High School Teacher, please use the other link in the original email.

The ASRT selection process:

Applicants will be evaluated by a committee from Regeneron and/or ZEISS, on the basis of a number of different criteria including, but not limited to:

- an interest in increasing students understanding & critical thinking, technology-based skills, networking/communication skills and presentation skills.
- an interest in increasing the number of high school students who carry out projects and/or the quality/level of those projects.
- an interest in increasing the types/categories of the projects that their students are able to be involved in.
- an interest in increasing participation in regional, state, national and international science fairs with students of all background/cultures/academic levels.
- the level of support from the school community and their administration for creating science research/STEM opportunities for high school students.

The High School teacher(s) or Science Fair Director(s) who are selected as "Finalists" will receive multiple days of
in-person consulting sessions (typically 4.5 days), at or near their school(s) as well as the opportunity to have follow-up sessions online (Zoom/Google Meet) throughout the year.

Additional teachers/Fair Directors may be selected as "Semifinalists" and will receive up to 2 days of consulting via an online/virtual format.

Teachers and/or Fair Directors who have applied will receive an email regarding whether or not they were selected by early December.

Please remember that the online application deadline is Monday, November 13th at 11:59 pm (Pacific Time).

Please refer to www.ASRTprogram.com for additional information and feel free to email with any questions.

Thank you in advance for applying or forwarding the information to High School Teachers or other Science Fair Directors who you think may benefit from this opportunity.

Michael Blueglass
Advancing STEM Research Teaching Program Director (ASRT)
Regeneron-Westchester Science & Engineering Fair President (WESEF)
email: STEMResearchConsulting@gmail.com

* Indicates required question

Contact Information

Contact
Info. for Science Fair Directors

This is ONLY a SAMPLE in order for participants to see the questions before they start the application. The actual application must be accessed by using the link in the original email.
1. Your name (First name Last name) *

2. Your email address *

3. Your phone number (XXX) XXX-XXXX (preferably your cell #) *

4. Which of the following describes the high schools that are involved in your science fair/research competition? (You may check more than one if appropriate) *

   Tick all that apply.

   [ ] Public
   [ ] Private
   [ ] Religious
   [ ] Charter
   [ ] Other: __________________________

5. List details below if your science fair includes high schools from more than one category (public, private, etc..) in the previous question.

   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

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6. Where do you work? and/or
What organization is in charge of running the science fair/research competition?

7. How long have you been in charge of running your regional science fair/research competition? *

*Mark only one oval.*

- [ ] A few months
- [ ] 1-3 years
- [ ] 5-10 years
- [ ] More than 10 years

8. Will you be the Fair Director for at least the next few years? *

*Mark only one oval.*

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Maybe

9. If your science fair/research competition is ISEF-affiliated, please list your affiliation ID (ex. USNY05)

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10. Which describes your Science Fair the best *

Mark only one oval.

☐ It incorporates only 1 high school
☐ It incorporates many high schools from our region
☐ It is a state science fair and may include high school students from all over the state
☐ Other

11. If you answered "Other" to the previous question, please explain more.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

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12. In which state is your science fair/research competition? *

*Mark only one oval.*

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming
Other

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13. In a typical (non-COVID) year, how many high school projects does your science fair/research competition typically send directly to ISEF?*

Mark only one oval.

0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
More than 20
14. In a typical (non-COVID) year, how many high school projects does your science fair/research competition typically send directly to your state science fair?

Mark only one oval.

☐ Not applicable since we are the state science fair

☐ 0
☐ 1
☐ 2
☐ 3
☐ 4
☐ 5
☐ 6
☐ 7
☐ 8
☐ 9
☐ 10
☐ 11
☐ 12
☐ 13
☐ 14
☐ 15
☐ 16
☐ 17
☐ 18
☐ 19
☐ 20
☐ More than 20

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15. In a typical (non-COVID) year, approximately how many different high schools are represented in your science fair/research competition?

Mark only one oval.

☐ 1-5
☐ 6-10
☐ 11-15
☐ 16-20
☐ 21-25
☐ 26-30
☐ More than 30

16. In a typical (non-COVID) year, approximately how many different high school PROJECTS are represented at your science fair/research competition?

Mark only one oval.

☐ 1-10
☐ 11-25
☐ 26-50
☐ 51-100
☐ 101-200
☐ 201-300
☐ 301-400
☐ 401-500
☐ More than 500

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17. During a TYPICAL YEAR, what do you consider to be some of the strengths of your high school science fair/research competition?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

18. During a TYPICAL YEAR, what do you consider to be some of the weaknesses/challenges of your high school science fair/research competition?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

19. If you are selected as a "Finalist" for the ASRT program, what would you want to work on changing regarding your high school science fair/research competition?

**If your answer would be the same as the answers to the question(s) above, you may skip this question.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

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20. If you are selected as a "Finalist" for the ASRT program, approximately how many high school teachers do you estimate participating in the multi-day, in-person workshop?

***During the SUMMER,*** the typical ASRT workshop runs from 9:00am-3:00pm on Monday through Thursday and 9:00-12:00pm on Friday with follow-up support online in the subsequent months.

***During the SCHOOL YEAR,*** it is possible to have a full ASRT workshop (4.5 days) OR a 3 day or 3.5 day workshop with follow-up sessions online in the subsequent months. Flexibility is possible regarding days and times.

* Saturdays and Sundays may also be included as possible days, even though these are not listed in the options. Ex. Wednesday - Saturday

Mark only one oval.

☐ 1
☐ 2
☐ 3
☐ 4
☐ 5
☐ 6
☐ 7
☐ 8
☐ 9
☐ 10
☐ 11
☐ 12
☐ 13
☐ 14
☐ 15
☐ 16
☐ 17
☐ 18
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21. If you are selected as a "Finalist" for the ASRT program, approximately **how many** *different high schools* do you estimate will be represented by the teachers participating?

*Mark only one oval.*

- [ ] 1
- [ ] 2
- [ ] 3
- [ ] 4
- [ ] 5
- [ ] 6
- [ ] 7
- [ ] 8
- [ ] 9
- [ ] 10
- [ ] 11
- [ ] 12
- [ ] 13
- [ ] 14
- [ ] 15
- [ ] 16
- [ ] 17
- [ ] 18
- [ ] 19
- [ ] 20
- [ ] More than 20

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22. To the best of your knowledge, approximately what percentage of the high schools involved in your science fair/research competition have an *established* STEM/Science Research Class/Elective and/or Club (as opposed to having students carry out projects as a part of their regular science class curriculum)

*Mark only one oval per row.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Have an established STEM/Science Research PROGRAM (course/elective)</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>Very Few</th>
<th>Some</th>
<th>Most</th>
<th>All</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have an established STEM/Science Research CLUB or after-school program.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have students carry out STEM/Science research projects as a PART OF A CORE CLASS (Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, etc..).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Expanding STEM/Science Research Opportunities for Students

Please answer each of the following based on your opinion regarding the high school teachers in your region, that would likely be involved in the ASRT workshop. Please consider expanding on your answer in the subsequent questions.

23. How interested are the high school teachers in your area in ... *

*Mark only one oval per row.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not interested</th>
<th>Mildly interested</th>
<th>Moderately interested</th>
<th>Very interested</th>
<th>Extremely interested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>increasing the number of students that carry out projects?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>increasing the number of students that present their project in regional/state science fairs and other public presentations/competitions?</td>
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<tr>
<td>increasing the quality/level of the projects?</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>increasing the types/categories of projects</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

24. Please feel free to expand on your answers from the previous question.

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Potential Dates for hosting the ASRT Workshop

Please consider these notes BEFORE selecting your priority list of potential ASRT dates.
* The more options you choose the better your chance may be of being selected. However, please consider the dates/calendars of the different teachers that you would include as fellow participants.

* Saturdays and Sundays may also be included as possible days, even though these are not listed on the following choices.

* "Finalists" are responsible for finding a suitable location to host the ASRT workshop. ASRT is typically held in a classroom or conference room with WiFi and a projector and screen or large TV.

* In many cases, the teacher hosting the ASRT workshop has provided lunch/refreshments for the participating teachers, though that is not a requirement.

***During the SUMMER, the typical ASRT workshop runs from 9:00am-3:00pm on Monday through Thursday and 9:00-12:00pm on Friday with follow-up support online in the subsequent months.

***During the SCHOOL YEAR, it is possible to have a full ASRT workshop (4.5 days) OR a 3 day or 3.5 day workshop with follow-up sessions online in the subsequent months. Flexibility is possible regarding days and times.

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25. Please select which of these weeks you would prefer for the ASRT workshop given the guidelines listed above.

Please only select the weeks that you, and those you would include, are available. The more options you choose the better your chance may be of being selected.

All dates listed are from Monday - Friday but weekends are possible, even though these are not listed on the following choices.

April 8 - April 12
April 22 - April 26 (includes Passover)
April 29 - May 3
May 27 - May 31 (includes Memorial day)
June 3 - June 7
June 10 - June 14
June 17 - June 21
June 24 - June 28
July 1 - July 5
July 8 - July 12
July 15 - July 19
July 22 - July 26
August 12 - August 16
August 19 - August 23
August 26 - August 30
September 2 - September 6 (includes Labor day)
September 9 - September 13
September 16 - September 20
September 23 - September 27
September 30 - October 4 (includes Rosh Hashanah)
October 7 - October 11
26. If you are selected as a "Finalist", **would you be able to secure a location** to host the ASRT program?

The only requirements are tables and chairs, access to wifi, ability to project onto a screen/tv.

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Maybe

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27. If you are selected as a "Finalist", **would you be able to secure funding to pay for lunch** *(or dinner)* **for the teachers in your region during the ASRT program?** *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

28. Feel free to expand on your answers above regarding hosting the ASRT program for the high school teachers in your region.

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

29. If you are selected as a "Finalist", **would you be able to guarantee that you can bring together at least 3-4 high school teachers that are (or want to be) involved in having their students carry out and present STEM Research Projects** for the full ASRT workshop?  

**You would be allowed to include as many as 20 teachers if you would like to**

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

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30. If you chose "no" or "maybe" in the previous question, please explain more.


31. If you are selected as a "Finalist", what strategies would you use to reach out to all of the high school teachers in your area to entice them to participate in the ASRT program with your group.


Final Thoughts

32. Please explain why you are interested in being considered to host the free, ASRT workshop for the high school Science/STEM Research teachers in your region.

Please include:
1. What strategies have you used to include the high school teachers from schools with students of all background/cultures/academic levels to participate?
2. What are your short and long term goals for your Science Fair/Research Competition?


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