



Westar Energy STEM Curriculum Innovation Award

USD and school name _____

School address _____

City, KS, Zip _____

USD and school's phone number _____

Applicant's name and position _____

Applicant's email address _____

Applicant's summer phone number _____

Is your USD or school served by Westar Energy? Y N

Do you have any Westar Energy employees or retirees that volunteer in school? Y N

Project Title _____

Attach a written proposal (2 pages, Times New Roman font) that provides the following information:

- Detailed description of the project;
- Total itemized budget for the project;
- Measurable goals for the project and plans for assessing learning; and
- State standards addressed by the project.

Signature of applicant _____

Signature of supervisor (principal, curriculum director, superintendent, etc.)

Date of application _____

Please include any supporting documentation for this request. All information supplied will be kept confidential. Send your completed application to:

Kansas Association of School Boards OR
Attn: Melissa Holder
1420 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, Kansas 66604-4024

mholder@kasb.org



2018 Westar Energy STEM Innovation Award

Westar Energy, the leading electric utility in the Midwest, is dedicated to investing in the communities we serve. Specifically, we are developing partnerships that allow us to invest in our workforce – both current and future. As a part of this effort, we developed a partnership in 2014 with the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) to create the “**Westar Energy STEM Innovation Award.**”

These awards are designed to support K-12 educators and school leaders in their efforts to develop, improve or expand innovative project-based instruction in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Three \$3,000 awards will be granted to support innovative programs that strive to increase student interest and academic achievement in the STEM disciplines as applied to electrical energy. A selection committee, composed of personnel from Westar Energy, KASB and Kansas State Department of Education, will select the winning applicants.

- Successful applicants will be teachers or administrators in KASB-member districts.
 - This award is intended for resources needed for individual classroom projects, or projects sponsored by school-affiliated, STEM-themed clubs and organizations. If more than one classroom is undertaking a similar project, only one grant per district may be awarded.
 - Upon completion of the projects, recipients will provide a written summary with samples of class work and photographs to Westar Energy and KASB. Curriculum and instructional materials will be property of both Westar and KASB.
 - Further, recipients will present their project during a session of the annual KASB conference in December.

- Successful applications will include projects dealing with science, technology, engineering or mathematics in the context of the generation, transmission or distribution of electrical energy. Requests that incorporate the following components are of the greatest interest:
 - A focus on electricity, electrical production and conservation in Kansas.
 - Designed to improve, advance and enrich student learning while growing their interest in STEM.
 - Designed to spark interest in STEM disciplines among students from non-traditional or underrepresented groups (i.e. ethnic minority and female students).
 - Provide activities that support student application of classroom STEM knowledge to practical applications.
 - **(New this year)** Successful applications will have a significant element of community service woven into their proposals.
 - Clearly explain how the items requested for funding are vital to the project's successful completion.
 - Clearly articulate a plan to complete the projects during the coming academic year.

- What is not supported by this grant:
 - Salaries or compensation for outside speakers, guest presenters or any school personnel.



- School laboratory supplies or equipment for general school use.
 - Media equipment (computers, cameras, DVD players, white boards).
 - Projects that require multiple academic years for completion.
 - Admissions fees and stipend for conference, workshops or competitions.
 - Transportation, incentives, meals and refreshments.
 - Previously funded projects from past winners.
- Timeline:
 - April 23, 2018 – RFP issued
 - July 13, 2018 – Proposal deadline
 - August 1-3, 2018 – Awards announced
 - August 31, 2018 – Award checks mailed to recipients
 - December 1, 2018 – Preliminary report due to Westar Energy and KASB (includes presentation at 2018 KASB conference)
 - December 1, 2019 – Summary Report due to Westar and KASB (includes presentation at 2019 KASB conference)