



## How do I Support a STEM Awareness Program?

- Identify a school or desired STEM Awareness Program site (location/region) where you would like the program to take place
- Determine the type of STEM Awareness Program desired and period of performance for program
- Contact the USACE Sacramento District (SPK) Contracting POC – who issues the call
- Issue MIPR after call is negotiated (See MIPR SOP)
- SPK issues a call upon receipt of funding (See BPA SOP)
- BPA cost per “Call” (Plus per diem based on JTR)
  - STEM Awareness Program - \$17,000
  - STEM Community Events/Fairs - \$13,700
  - Science Fair (one day, 100 Students) - \$12,300
- GMiS coordinates the STEM Awareness Program and includes federal agency
- GMiS conducts your STEM Awareness Program

## Timeline

- Timing is key – There are approximately 27 weeks between September and June that are optimal for programming during the academic school year
- If a relationship needs to be established with a school, an event could take up to three months to coordinate
- Coordinating a STEM Awareness Program can be quicker with schools that have already benefited from a previous program
- School and federal agency schedules must be coordinated when planning a STEM Awareness Program

## USACE Contracting Contact Information

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Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) available for all Federal Agencies. Managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

# National STEM Awareness Program

Promoting Awareness of Opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) among Underrepresented Students





# National STEM Awareness Program Options

Whether you want to support a program at a school or participate in a community event to promote STEM, the BPA allows USACE and other federal agencies to choose from several STEM Awareness Program Options. These include:

- 1) STEM Awareness two-part Program for Parents and Students
- 2) STEM Community Event/ Fair Support
- 3) Science Fair School Support
- 4) Analysis of Student STEM Impact (three options)



## About the BPA



US Army Corps of Engineers  
BUILDING STRONG®

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has developed a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) available to USACE and other federal agencies to promote STEM careers. The primary target audience for the STEM Awareness Program are underrepresented students grades 5-12. Great Minds in STEM (GMiS) was selected to deliver the programs across the United States.

## National STEM Awareness Program Goals

- Foster/motivate increased awareness and interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) among underrepresented inner-city students grades 5-12
- Foster an increased underrepresented minority presence in the nation's college level STEM programs, a mission supported by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies
- Lay the framework for an increase in the representation of underrepresented minorities within the Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies' workforce by "seeding" the future applicant pool



### 1) STEM Awareness Two-Part Program for Parents and Students

The National STEM Awareness Program is designed to engage inner-city and rural 5-12 grade students and parents in activities that stimulate interest in the applications of technology and open doors to academic achievement in STEM subjects. This innovative program includes a parent orientation session, as well as a STEM Awareness Student Day that features team challenges; direct and intense interaction with college engineering and science students and powerful, eye-opening conversations with STEM professionals; all within the students' own campus.

#### Part One – Parent Orientation

The parent orientation is held the same week as the STEM Awareness Student Day. During the two hour orientation, parents are provided with program details, including information about specific hands-on activities their children will perform that day. Additional information on why encouraging interest in math and science is important, the positive impacts it makes on their children and the career opportunities available in STEM, will be provided. Information is given on the supporting federal agency. The session can be presented in both English and Spanish.

#### Part Two – STEM Awareness Student Day

Students experience hands-on activities throughout the day, filled with STEM-based competitive and educational exercises. Students work in teams led by engineering and science college student (College Captains) from the surrounding area. Students will hear a presentation from a STEM professional who represents the sponsoring organization. Active participation throughout the program is highly encouraged, challenging students to engage, interact and compete for STEM and educationally related prizes. The STEM Awareness Student Day is designed for approximately 100-120 students, providing for 1-2 College Captains per 10 students. GMiS welcomes the participation of federal agency employees during the program to help co-lead the 10-student teams alongside the College Captains, but this is not required. Federal agencies are encouraged to provide outreach or recruiting-related products, fact sheets, informational brochures and other appropriate items, particularly materials which reinforce STEM opportunities available through the federal agency.

### 2) STEM Community Event Support

GMiS will provide support for established community events to promote STEM Career Awareness. The program will showcase organization and career opportunities within USACE or other federal agencies. Activities are coordinated to insure that activities and materials meet the needs of the target audience. Audiences may range from 5-12 grades and college students, parents, teachers, community based organizations and their members, as well as STEM corporate and government partners. The following criteria will be considered when pricing the program: type of community event; number of event days; anticipated number of individuals participating in the event; and level of activities or type of participant engagement requested.

### 3) Science Fair School Support

This program is available to schools that have participated in at least one STEM Awareness Program and are interested in, or currently conducting a school science fair. Establishing a relationship between the federal agency sponsor, GMiS and the school is required to allow the GMiS team to determine school needs. GMiS will take on the coordination required to secure judges, college student support and supplement the science fair with necessary materials for the enhancement of the event. A minimum of 100 student participants and a 6-month lead time are required for implementation.

### 4) Analysis of Student STEM Impact

This program is available to schools that have had continuous STEM Awareness programming (a minimum of two programs at the individual school location). GMiS has a three-prong approach to the Analysis of Student STEM Impact, which includes the following: Education Awareness Program(s), School Environmental Scan and Community Environmental Scan.