THOMAS EDISON AWARDS

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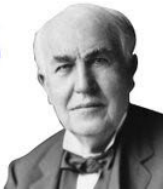

Governor's Thomas Edison Awards for Excellence in STEM Education

About the Governor's Awards

First established in 1985, under Gov. Celeste's Administration, The Governor's Thomas Edison Awards for Excellence in Student Research and STEM Education are presented to Ohio students, schools, and teachers who extend STEM education beyond traditional classroom activities. Award certificates are presented to each school and a press release recognizes each of the school's STEM teachers for this high achievement.

Student Awards

Local Science Day Award Certificates

Local Science Day directors may go online to download a packet of certificates:
http://ssd.ohiosci.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/06/LocalGovernorsAwardsnon-fillable.pdf

These certificates can be printed and used at schools, but ONLY for superior rated projects using the Academy's criteria in the following award categories:

- Advanced or Alternative Energy
- Advanced Materials
- Biotechnology and Biomedical technologies
- Information Technology

State Science Day Student Awards

Students who qualify for State Science Day are eligible for scholarships in the following areas:

- Advanced or Alternative Energy
- Advanced Materials
- Biotechnology and Biomedical technologies
- Information Technology

State Science Day scholarships include:

Grades 10 -12

- 1st place: $1,750
- 2nd place: $1,000
- 3rd Place: $750

Grades 7-9

- 1st place: $1,000
- 2nd place: $500
- 3rd place: $250

School and Teacher Awards

The Governor's Thomas Edison Excellence of STEM Education recognizes teachers and schools that focus on STEM education and provide additional opportunities for youth science beyond the classroom.

Criteria for School and Teacher Awards

1. Conduct a local science fair with 12 or more students and have two or more of these students participate at the 2025 Regional Science Day -**OR**- have 6 or more students participate at the 2025 Regional Science Day.

2. Students must participate in at least one more youth science opportunity beyond the classroom: State Science Day, Ohio STEP, ISEF Affiliated Regional Science and Engineering Fairs, Regeneron Science Talent Search, Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair, MATHCOUNTS, JSHS, B-WISER Camp, Engineer-for-a-Day Program, TSA:TEAMS, OM, Physics Olympics, Science Olympiad, Invention League, or other structured, STEM-related youth activities at museums and nature centers, extensive field experiences, and mentorships at colleges and industries.

3. Documentation: The principal must write and personally sign a cover letter on school letterhead that lists the teacher or members of the teaching team most responsible for participation in the student activities. The cover letter from the principal, a two-page summary and DOCUMENTATION should not exceed 20 pages. Complete application packages must be uploaded in PDF format by July 21, 2025.

- Provide a maximum two-page summary description with attached documentation as to how and to what extent the school's program(s) meet(s) the Academy's definition of STEM education. The summary needs to present a compelling case for your application. See What is STEM Education?
- Include a table or matrix that identifies and affirms the specific roles or contributions of each teacher nominated.
- Due to the page limitation, it is not necessary to include copies of certificates earned by students. Instead, use this space to summarize what students have accomplished, show examples of how the school provides continuity between grades and schools, discuss the number of students your programs reach, how your programs meet the curriculum standards, etc. You are encouraged to provide links to news stories that reviewers could also view.

The entire application should not exceed 20 pages. Each submission must include (1) a cover letter (2) two-page summary, (3) documentation. Complete application packages must be uploaded in a single PDF format by July 21, 2025. **https://form.jotform.com/OhioScience/edison-award**

For current award information visit:
https://www.ohiosci.org/governor-teacher/