



The **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics** (STEM) Education Coalition represents the broadest and most unified voice in advocating for policies to improve STEM education at all levels. An alliance of more than 500 business, professional, and education organizations, the Coalition works aggressively to raise awareness in Congress, the Administration, and other organizations about the critical role that STEM education plays in enabling the U.S. to remain the economic and technological leader of the global marketplace of the 21st century.

The Coalition's Mission:

- Educate federal policymakers and key opinion leaders on the critical role that STEM education plays in U.S. competitiveness.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with key Congressional and Administration policymakers and serve as a valued source of expertise to their staffs on STEM education issues.
- Advocate for appropriations for innovative and effective federal STEM education programs.
- Foster innovative policies to:
 - Encourage and inspire more of our best and brightest students, especially those from underrepresented or disadvantaged groups, to study in STEM fields;
 - Improve the content knowledge and professional skills of the STEM teacher workforce;
 - Recruit and retain highly-skilled STEM educators;
 - Improve the resources available for learning STEM subjects; and
 - Encourage better coordination of efforts among federal agencies that provide STEM education programs.

Members of the Coalition's Leadership Council:

- | | |
|--|---|
| National Science Teachers Association (Chair) | ASTRA – The Alliance for Science and Technology |
| American Chemical Society (Co-Chair) | Research in America |
| ASME (Co-Chair) | Battelle |
| Education Development Center (Co-Chair) | Business-Higher Education Forum |
| Hands on Science Partnership (Co-Chair) | Cable in the Classroom |
| Microsoft Corporation (Co-Chair) | Campaign for Environmental Literacy |
| National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (Co-Chair) | Education Testing Service, Inc. |
| Afterschool Alliance | Entertainment Industries Council, Inc. |
| American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education | IEEE-USA |
| American Society for Engineering Education | Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy/ |
| Association of Public and Land Grant Universities | Committee for the Advancement of STEM |
| | Speciality Schools |
| | National Association of Manufacturers |



Statement of **STEM Education Coalition** Core Policy Principles 2011

On NCLB/ESEA Reauthorization:

The Coalition supports:

- Inclusion of student performance in science alongside math and reading as a required element of the accountability system.
- Federal support for ongoing collaborative state efforts to adopt “common core” or other high-quality standards in math and science.
- Robust dedicated support for effective Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) educator professional development and preparation and educational innovation activities under Title II.
- Integration of STEM-focused curriculum, projects, and programs as priority investments for ESEA programs that support classroom teaching and learning as well as out of school experiences such as afterschool and summer programs.
- Targeted efforts to promote STEM subject master teachers and teacher specialists.
- Competitive grant programs to promote more aggressive state adoption and expansion of high-quality, rigorous STEM programs, so long as such efforts do not compromise existing formula-funding streams that also support high-quality STEM activities.

On Federal Appropriations for STEM Programs:

The Coalition supports:

- Comprehensive efforts to coordinate, evaluate, and review all federal STEM programs on a regular basis to ensure that effective programs are scaled up and that underperforming programs are improved or eliminated.
- Higher prioritization for funding of STEM-focused programs at the Department of Education.
- Full funding of the NSF’s Education and Human Resources Directorate as authorized by Congress, including research and development programs in STEM teaching and learning in a variety of settings.
- High-quality programs conducted by other science and technology mission agencies that have positive impact on student achievement in STEM subjects and other educational outcomes.

On Broader STEM Policies:

The Coalition supports:

- An inclusive definition of the term “STEM” education by federal programs that is not limited to math and science, but embraces each STEM discipline and its unique needs.
- Efforts to expand the diversity of the STEM pipeline and workforce, including targeted initiatives to promote the inclusion of underrepresented minorities and women in STEM fields.
- A strong emphasis in learning environments on hands-on, experiential, inquiry-based and learner-centered student experiences and activities, including engineering design processes.
- Incentives to promote business community engagement in STEM education activities at every level, including tax incentives for donations of equipment, training and services, and access to facilities.
- Integration of STEM-focused activities in federal programs directed at learning environments outside the K-12 classroom, such as afterschool and summer community based programs, universities and other higher education entities, community colleges, and workforce and job training programs.

STEM Education Coalition

700 North One Lafayette Center | 120 20th Street N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 223-1187 | www.stemedcoalition.org