

2018 K-5 Earth Science/STEM Teacher Leadership Academy

ExxonMobil Exploration and the American Geosciences Institute are pleased to announce that they will be holding the tenth annual national Leadership Academy in Earth science and STEM for elementary school teachers **June 24-29, 2018**. The program will be held in Houston, and begins with a reception and dinner on the evening of Sunday, June 24th, and concludes at noon on Friday, June 29th.

The academy will provide teachers with Earth science content, hands-on activities, educational resources, and real-world science experiences that they can use with their students in the classroom and with their colleagues in professional development settings. The program will be residential in Houston, and all academy-related travel, lodging, and subsistence costs will be covered by a grant from ExxonMobil. We have space for up to 24 participants and encourage teams of two or four to attend from each state or school district. **While lodging will be provided, teachers will be required to share a sleeping room with a fellow team member.**

In the year following the academy, participants are asked to extend the program's impact by conducting one or more teacher professional development workshop sessions at local, regional, and/or national science education meetings. Preparation for these sessions begins during the academy.

With some adaptations based on the needs and interests of participating teachers, topics covered during the 40 hours of the workshop will include:

- Introducing Earth system science to students;
- Teaching Earth science with an emphasis on STEM and Science & Engineering Practices;
- Investigations to help students understand the Nine Big Ideas in Earth Science (From the *Earth Science Literacy Principles*);
- Teaching the seven Energy Literacy Principles;
- Resources for teaching Earth science (e.g., Earth Science Week Kits, and many others);
- The work of geoscientists in the energy industry;
- Planning, conducting, and evaluating successful Earth science and STEM workshops.

The applicant review process **will start March 2018** and school administrators are encouraged to recommend teachers early.

The focus of all aspects of the workshop is first and foremost to prepare professionals to serve as mentors/leaders among their colleagues. Therefore, we are looking for teachers who have the potential to become science professional development leaders in their home school systems. Please send names and e-mail contact information for nominees to Juliet Crowell, Education Programs Manager, American Geosciences Institute, at jmcrowell@agiweb.org. Please use the subject line "K-5 Teacher Leader Academy Nominee".

Each nominee will be sent a link to the online application form. Nominated teachers will be asked to complete an online application and to include (upload) the three required documents:

1. a **current curriculum vitae or resume** that includes their contact information, educational preparation, teaching and other work experience and any professional development training they have received and/or experience in conducting workshops;
2. a **letter of interest** expressing why they would like to attend the academy;
3. a **letter of recommendation and commitment** from their principal or other school administrator stating why the nominee is a good choice for this program, and that the teacher will be permitted to conduct professional development workshops for their peers within the next year.

More detailed information about travel will be sent to the teachers selected to attend.

Please feel free to send questions to Juliet Crowell, Education Programs Manager, jmcrowell@agiweb.org.