

NSTA Fact Sheet

About the National Science Teachers Association

Founded in 1944, the Arlington, Virginia–based National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) is the largest organization in the world promoting excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all. NSTA membership—approximately 55,000 strong—includes science teachers; science supervisors; informal science educators; administrators; scientists; and leaders in business, industry, and government. Along with its members, NSTA's 56 state/province chapters, 34 associate groups, 9 affiliates, and 165 student chapters work together to further promote and support quality science education.

As a leader in science education, NSTA works to engage teachers of science nationwide and improve student learning by providing an array of professional learning products, services, and programs. Each year NSTA hosts a national conference, three area conferences, and a STEM Forum & Expo that attract nearly 20,000 science educators. These conferences offer the latest in STEM content, teaching strategies, and research. In conjunction with select conferences, NSTA hosts Professional Learning Institutes (PLIs), focused professional learning that address topics in depth and promote research-based strategies to improving science education. NSTA also hosts workshops that help participants learn how to conduct comprehensive teacher trainings on the *Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)*.

Along with Achieve, the National Research Council, and AAAS, NSTA was a partner in the development of the *NGSS*, which are having a positive impact on science teaching and learning across the country. NSTA is dedicated to helping science educators and administrators put the vision of the new science standards into action with an extensive collection of teacher and vetted classroom resources, professional learning programs, and information and tools, all found on the *NGSS@NSTA Hub*.

Our award-winning publishing division, NSTA Press®, produces more than 20 books a year offering a unique blend of scientific content and sound teaching strategies. NSTA's four monthly journals: *Science and Children* (K–5), *Science Scope* (6–8), *The Science Teacher* (grades 9–12), and the *Journal of College Science Teaching*, offer helpful columns and original content on classroom instructional techniques. NSTA also distributes a newspaper, *NSTA Reports*, several content rich e-newsletters and the NSTA website. Our new online journal, *Connected Science Learning*, bridges in-school and out-of-school STEM learning and showcases highly effective programs, practices, collaborations, and research taking place between these two learning communities.

“... to promote excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all.”

www.nsta.org

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Other professional learning opportunities include the NSTA New Science Teacher Academy, the ExxonMobil Teachers Academy, and the Northrop Grumman Foundation Teachers Academy, all uniquely tailored to address the individual professional development needs of teachers and school leaders.

NSTA's impressive collection of digital tools and online resources address the needs of busy science teachers. Through the nationally recognized NSTA Learning Center, educators can explore content and its pedagogical implications and document their professional growth—all from the comfort of home and in collaboration with like-minded educators via our moderated online professional learning community.

NSTA hosts and administers several competitions, grant, and awards programs for science educators and students. Competitions include Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision, the Bright Schools Competition, TOMODACHI Toshiba Science & Technology Leadership Academy, eCYBERMISSION, and The Shell Science Lab Challenge.