



Dear

At the National Science Teaching Association's (NSTA) National Conference on Science Education (NSTA NOLA24)—one of the largest conferences focused exclusively on science and STEM teaching for K-20 teachers of science—educators will gather to discover best practices and strategies in science education. I am eager to attend this professional learning event in New Orleans, scheduled for November 6-9, as this is a fantastic opportunity for me to sharpen my skills, while also establishing connections with peers from around the country.

NSTA NOLA24 will give me the chance to attend science-specific professional learning, which is critical to my growth as a science teacher. The conference features hundreds of peer-led sessions and workshops that directly apply to my work. NSTA offers [professional development credit](#) (based on clock hours) and [graduate-level credit](#) through Dominican University of California for this conference. This highly specialized professional learning event will equip me with enhanced skills and knowledge on key areas vital to successful learning in my science/STEM classroom, including ensuring my teaching aligns with state teaching standards and research-based teaching pedagogy. Strands for the NSTA NOLA24 include:

- **STEM Haven:** Sessions in this strand focus on transdisciplinary learning (engaging students where disciplines converge to solve real-world problems)
- **Tech Tools:** Sessions in this strand focus on technology tools and strategies, that when implemented thoughtfully and emphatically, can positively impact student learning for all and/or provide support for teachers to reduce anxiety.
- **Students and Sensemaking:** Sessions in this strand focus on ways educators can integrate the four pillars of sensemaking (phenomena, science and engineering practices, student ideas and science ideas) into their practice.
- **Curriculum & Assessment:** Sessions in this strand focus on improving science and STEM classroom teaching and learning using high-quality instructional materials or assessments.
- **Research to Practice:** Sessions in this strand focus on highlighting a specific research project, publication, or finding in education and how it can be implemented in the classroom.

I will also have the chance to explore the Expo Hall to engage in one-on-one conversations with industry experts, participate in live product demos, and explore new teaching and learning tools and resources that will help sharpen my practice and boost student performance. Plus, I will be able to bring home conference materials, allowing me to share what I have learned with others in the department.

The conference also provides opportunities for me to network with education industry leaders, and solution providers. Finally, my conference registration also includes a one-year NSTA membership so in the months after the conference, I will have access to hundreds of lessons, online learning web seminars, and monthly journal articles.

Offering opportunities for further learning and development is a great way to show your appreciation for the teaching profession and thus, support for your staff, like me. I hope you agree that my attendance at NSTA NOLA24 is a valuable investment that will help elevate the quality of instruction in my classroom.

Thank you for considering this request. Please let me know if there is any additional information I can provide.

Sincerely,