



# VERNIER TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

A partnership of Vernier Software & Technology and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), this award recognizes the innovative use, or potential use, of data-collection technology (e.g. probes or sensors) interfacing with a computer, graphing calculator, or handheld in the science classroom. Seven awards will be presented in the following categories: one elementary (grades K–5) award; two middle level (grades 6–8) awards; three high school (grades 9–12) awards; and one college award.

## AWARD

The award consists of a \$1,000 prize; \$3,000 in Vernier products; and up to \$1,500 towards expenses to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education. Awardees will be honored at the Awards Banquet during the NSTA conference.

## ELIGIBILITY

Teachers of science in grades K–college classrooms, that reside in an NSTA district. Applicants may not have won previously at their school.

## AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications should reflect NGSS and/or national science education standards if necessary and must include the following information in the order presented:

- ★ an abstract of application, not to exceed 250 words;
- ★ Describe the program's philosophy, goals, and objectives. How has the applicant implemented, or will implement, data collection technology in his or her science teaching practices? What impact do you believe these activities have had, or will have, on student learning? Describe the evolution of these practices in the nominee's classroom, school, and community. Innovations may have been implemented at the time of application for this award or will be if awarded. The program description should be no more than five (5) pages, single-sided, and double-spaced.
- ★ an actual lab activity with the grade level. Describe an innovative practice you have implemented, or will implement, in your classroom, and tell what impact it will have or has had on students, other teachers, parents, and community groups;
- ★ a one-page, single-sided, single-spaced vita that includes teaching experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards, and published material;
- ★ Support NGSS and/or national science education standards
- ★ Three letters of support from individuals and groups who are familiar with the applicant's work. You may also self-nominate. Letters should not exceed three pages each and must accompany packet. Letters sent separately will not be considered. When possible, use letterhead. Make sure letters are signed and dated

accordingly. Letters should be written for and refer to applicant's strengths, accomplishments, and the highlights of his or her teaching or administration methods and experiences that directly connect to the application.

## Checklist Prior to Uploading Application

Occasionally we receive entries that are incomplete or in which the applicant did not follow the specified guidelines. Entries that do not follow the stated rules for submission are disqualified, regardless of the merit or innovation of the entry. Make sure you and a colleague review the checklist below before sending in your application so you can ensure that your efforts will not be disqualified. Ensure that your application communicates the information you intend. Don't forget to check for correct spelling.

Please be advised that you may apply for more than one award; however, you are eligible to win only one NSTA award per year. Each application must be based on a unique program and process. Submission of the same idea and materials to different NSTA award programs will result in the disqualification of all applications. If your idea or project has received an NSTA award in the past, that idea or project is not eligible to receive an additional award.

If you are selected to receive an award, NSTA must request and receive your social security number to issue a 1099 form to you. If your program is currently grant funded, confirm that you, as an individual, are eligible to receive a cash award. If you have received an award for this project from another provider, you must notify NSTA.

Please note that, for security purposes, this online application form has a 2-hour time limit. If you are inactive for the maximum time, you will be automatically logged out of the system. You may log back in with your username (email address) and password. At any time during the application process, you may click the Save & Logout button, located at the top of every screen. This will save the information you have entered thus far and allow you to log back in to complete your form at a later date.

Upon receipt, all submissions become the property of NSTA. Applications will not be returned. Late or faxed applications will not be accepted. Completed applications must be received by December 15, 2021. Applications may only be submitted via the online submission form found at <https://www.nsta.org/awards>. Questions? Please feel free to e-mail [awards@nsta.org](mailto:awards@nsta.org).