

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS COHORT 2 and COHORT 3

## STEM KickStarter 2.0 Program for Two-Year Hispanic Serving Institutions

*Building a community of practice on STEM teaching and learning to improve outcomes for Latinx students and signal intentionality for institutional transformation across a cohort of two-year Hispanic Serving Institutions.*

### APPLICATION DEADLINES

Cohort 2 Full Application Due Date: **Rolling Deadline**

Cohort 3 Full Application Due Date: **February 15, 2024; 5pm PDT**

### WHO CAN APPLY?

1. Applicants must be designated Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) (with at least 25% Hispanic student enrollment).
2. The HSI must be a Community College or two-year institute.
3. Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to serving Latinx students generally, and be interested in improving Latinx student outcomes in STEM specifically.

## INTRODUCTION

The STEM KickStarter 2.0 (STEM KS2) Program, led by the ASU Center for Broadening Participation in STEM, is a methodical, college-wide approach to improve STEM education achieved through STEM (faculty/staff) teams developing STEM plans. Key features of STEM KS2 include a comprehensive college recruitment and onboarding process for the STEM teams; a STEM self-assessment; a site visit leading to a President-endorsed STEM plan with institution-wide goals, strategic objectives, and work plans for activities and programs to improve Latinx student outcomes in STEM; professional development in topics such as culturally-responsive instruction and student servingness; and technical support throughout the process. STEM plans can involve applying for or implementing grants or other initiatives designed to improve student recruitment and/or retention. The approach requires STEM teams to be cross-disciplinary and cross-functional with faculty and staff members who ultimately learn about the assets of their counterparts and where there is common ground for collaboration. *This program is made possible with support from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Award #2142734 and #2142516.* Please refer to the [Award Abstract](#).

## ABOUT THE ASU CENTER FOR BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN STEM

The Center for Broadening Participation in STEM (CBP-STEM) at Arizona State University (ASU) is driven to broaden participation of student populations that have historically been underrepresented in STEM by creating equitable, accessible, inclusive and long-term interest in STEM fields. Broadening Participation strategies aim to address challenges, barriers, and discrepancies in the advancement of STEM opportunities for students from underrepresented, marginalized, and minoritized groups. By establishing strong strategies to broaden participation and having a critical understanding of where the gaps are in broadening participation in STEM, the Center is able to help institutions drive systemic change and build stronger academic pathways for underrepresented and marginalized students. As a research organization, the Center studies the impact of this work on outcomes for STEM faculty, staff and students.

## STEM KICKSTARTER 2.0 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### PROGRAM GOAL

Build communities of practice on STEM teaching and learning to improve outcomes for Latinx students and signal intentionality for institutional transformation across 4 cohorts of 16 two-year Hispanic Serving Institutions.

### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The STEM KS2 staff will address the needs of each participating institution in a *customized* fashion (Objective 1) and support the institution's participation in a growing HSI network with similar goals (Objective 2).

**Objective 1: Create the conditions that directly support STEM team members in cohort colleges in forming communities of practice, developing and implementing their STEM plans, and making changes designed to improve STEM teaching and learning.**

KS2 staff will provide colleges with the structural support to build a cross-disciplinary, cross-functional team to function as a community of practice on accelerating Latinx success in STEM. The framework uses stages to: (1) self-assess using a STEM Evidence-based Student Serving model to determine strengths and areas of improvement, (2) develop a plan using a strategic vision and prioritized goals, (3) adopt and implement evidence-based practices to accelerate Latinx student success in STEM, and (4) transform the institution through sustained action and change in policies and practices.

**Objective 2: Build a network of Hispanic Serving Community Colleges invested in accelerating Latinx student success in STEM.**

Each college will be part of a four-college cohort. Each college will have a duration of 18 months in the program, after which participants will "graduate" and transition to be role models and/or mentors for incoming cohorts or through a Train the Trainer model, to help facilitate a STEM-ESS Assessment and Planning activity with incoming institutions. Graduating participants will be encouraged to continue as contributing members of the growing KickStarter Community.

### PROGRAM OUTCOMES

As a result of successful selection and participation in the STEM KS2 program, participating institutions will:

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1. Develop a STEM Community of Practice (STEM Team) that builds relationships across STEM disciplines and functional areas to sustain changes started in the STEM Plan. Enable STEM Teams to make changes designed to improve Latinx STEM student learning and success through providing resources and a series of Professional Development Webinars and Workshops.
2. Produce comprehensive STEM Plans for institutional transformation, sustained by leveraging KickStarter's robust networks to develop a broader range of partners in K-12, industry, four-year institutions, and researchers to help sustain STEM programs and improve federal program competitiveness.
3. Implement at least one prioritized STEM teaching and learning practice from the STEM Plan that will be submitted for consideration to [Excelencia's Growing What Works](#) database of evidence-based practices.
4. Sustain changes that align with components that *Excelencia* in Education uses to award the [Seal of Excelencia](#), including data and practices to serve Latinx students.

**PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS**

For participating, STEM Team members will receive stipends for 40 hours time commitment over the 18-month program, which includes:

1. 2-3 hours to complete the STEM-ESS Assessment
2. Develop a STEM Plan and embed it into the institutional strategic plan with facilitators from KickStarter (on Zoom or 1.5 day site visit is optional)
3. Attend and engage in 9 STEM Team meetings with a focus on STEM Plan refinement and implementation

**PROGRAM SELECTION CRITERIA**

Applications will be reviewed using the following Selection Criteria:

1. The extent to which the college is committed to forming a STEM Team that has the demonstrated potential to lead institutional transformation.
2. The level of college leadership prepared to support the proposed project.

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3. The extent to which the college's recent experiences and accomplishments with STEM-related programs to improve Latinx student success express up-to-date knowledge and practices regarding STEM-related strategies.
4. The likelihood that this college will produce a STEM Plan that addresses sustained change in prioritized areas needing improvement during the 18-month program period.

## **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Only one application will be accepted per institution.

### **FULL APPLICATION (REQUIRED)**

***Cohort 2 Full Application; Rolling Deadline***

***Cohort 3 Full Application; February 15, 2024 5PM PDT***

Email Full Application to [cbpstem@asu.edu](mailto:cbpstem@asu.edu)

Electronic submissions are required in Adobe .pdf file format.

Institutions selected to participate in the STEM KickStarter 2.0 program will be announced in **September 2023 for cohort 2 and March 2024 for cohort 3.**

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Cohort 2; September, 2023 or  Cohort 3; May, 2024

### APPLICATION FORM

Institution Name\* \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Address

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Team Leader's Information

Prefix (Dr., Ms. , Mr., etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

First Name\* \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name\* \_\_\_\_\_

Full Title\* \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Discipline or Administrative Office\* \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

Team Co-Leader's Information (optional)

Prefix (Dr., Ms. , Mr., etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Full Title \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Discipline or Administrative Office \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Overview of Institution:**

Present an overview of your institution, including an overview of student populations in general, and if available, student populations in STEM. (Max 1000 characters including spaces)

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Describe the top two or three STEM-related priorities identified from your institution's Strategic Plan. (Max 1000 characters including spaces)

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Describe the top two or three ways your institution serves Latinx students. (1000 characters including spaces)

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**Commitment to Building a STEM Team as a Community of Practice:**

Identify the 10 STEM Team Members that will be representing your institution on this project, including the STEM Team Leader and optional Co-Leader. These members should be action-oriented, open-minded to change, willing to try new approaches, have some experience in serving underrepresented students, well-connected, respected, and perceived as role models and leaders (or emerging leaders) within your organization. We encourage team composition to be cross-functional and cross-discipline—consider faculty, student support service staff, institutional research staff, senior administration, and STEM student representation.

	Name	Title	email
Team Member 1 (leader)			
Team Member 2			
Team Member 3			
Team Member 4			
Team Member 5			
Team Member 6			
Team Member 7			
Team Member 8			
Team Member 9			
Team Member 10			

What is your rationale for choosing the members of your team? What roles do you envision each person playing in your reform efforts? (Max 1000 characters including spaces)

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**Strengths and Areas of Improvement Related to Latinx Student Success in STEM:**

Summarize your institution's most recent efforts that have improved Latinx student success in STEM, including any available data that demonstrates results. (Max 1000 characters including spaces)

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Summarize your institution's top challenges and barriers to improving Latinx STEM student success. (Max 1000 characters including spaces)

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**Rationale for requesting participation in the STEM KickStarter 2.0 Program:**

What motivated your institution to apply for this opportunity? (Max 1000 characters including spaces)

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In what ways will your institution benefit from your participation in this program? (Max 1000 characters including spaces)

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What is your desired outcome from your participation in this program? (Max 1000 characters including spaces)

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**President's Endorsement**

*By entering the president's name and email address below, you confirm that they agree to the following "If selected to the Cohort, I endorse the identified STEM Team's participation in the STEM KickStarter 2.0 Community of Practice."*

President's Full Name \* \_\_\_\_\_

President's Full Email \* \_\_\_\_\_

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***Institutional Research Point of Contact:*** Please provide the contact information for the person at your institution who will serve as the point of contact for institutional data collection.\*

Prefix (Dr., Ms. , Mr., etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Title\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Administrative Office\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

***IRB Point of Contact:*** Please provide the contact information for the person at your institution who will serve as the point of contact for the STEM KS2 Educational Researcher and Evaluator for IRB approval.\*

Prefix (Dr., Ms. , Mr., etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Title\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Administrative Office\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Email\* \_\_\_\_\_