



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, and representing more than 100 countries—includes science teachers; science supervisors; informal science educators; administrators; scientists; and leaders in business, industry, and government. Along with its members, NSTA’s 58 state chapters, 33 associate groups, 9 affiliates, and nearly 100 student chapters work together to further promote and support quality science education.

Along with Achieve, the National Research Council, and AAAS, the NSTA served as a partner in the development of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The Next Generation Science Standards establish learning expectations for students that integrate three important dimensions—science and engineering practices, disciplinary core ideas, and crosscutting concepts—which will effectively build science concepts from kindergarten through 12th grade and integrate important engineering concepts. NSTA offers a number of resources and activities devoted to helping teachers realize the vision of the NGSS.

As a leader in science education, NSTA works to engage teachers of science nationwide and improve student learning by providing a vast array of products, services, and programs. Each year NSTA hosts a national conference and three area conferences that attract nearly 20,000 science educators from around the world. These conferences are open to members and nonmembers and offer the latest in science content, teaching strategy, and research. Other important additions to the national conference agenda (and selected area conferences) include Research Dissemination Conferences (RDCs), Professional Development Institutes (PDIs), and NSTA Symposia. These special events, led by experts in the field, cover critical science education topics in depth and promote research-based strategies and documented approaches to improving science education.

In addition to the conferences, NSTA offers a variety of focused, face-to-face professional development programs for science educators. The NSTA New Science Teacher Academy and the Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy are uniquely tailored to address the individual professional development needs of teachers and school leaders with research-based learning opportunities that improve content knowledge and provide pedagogical support for K–12 science teachers.

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

Our award-winning publishing division, NSTA Press[®], develops and produces more than 20 books a year on topics including astronomy, biology, chemistry, and environmental science. Specifically aimed at teachers of science, NSTA Press titles offer a unique blend of accurate scientific content and sound teaching strategies. NSTA also publishes four monthly, award-winning journals: *Science and Children* (K–5), *Science Scope* (6–8), *The Science Teacher* (grades 9–12), and the *Journal of College Science Teaching*. The journals include helpful columns and other original content and provide more than 100,000 teachers with proven classroom instructional techniques. NSTA also distributes a popular newspaper, *NSTA Reports*, several content rich e-newsletters and the NSTA website, all which provide grade-specific resources for teachers and the latest news and information on science teaching and learning. Across all our e-networks, NSTA reaches nearly 500,000 teachers on a weekly basis.

NSTA hosts and administers several large-scale, nationally-known competitions and grant programs for science educators and students. Competitions include Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision, America’s Home Energy Education Challenge, The DuPont Challenge Science Education Competition, eCYBERMISSION, The Shell Science Lab Challenge, and Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge.