



Association of Science and Technology Centers

Funding Opportunity—

# STEM Activities Outreach During COVID-19

Made possible by



## Summary

Through generous funding from the Voya Foundation, up to 20 grants of \$5,000 will be awarded to science and technology centers and museums, to support their efforts in providing STEM-engagement programs and resources during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Awards may be used by institutions developing, enhancing, or adapting programs and resources for use by the general public. Examples include live science demonstrations, virtual field trips, do-at-home activities, classroom curricula, family guides, downloadable education materials, and other programs and resources. These programs must meet a demonstratable community need for education and engagement and be aligned with your state's educational standards.

Funds may be used for staff costs, materials, equipment, or other expenses required to produce and deliver the programs and resources.

This funding will support selected institutions in these areas identified by the funder:

**Arizona**

**California**

**Connecticut**

**Delaware**

**District of Columbia**

**Florida**

**Illinois**

**Louisiana**

**New York**

**Ohio**

**Oregon**

**Pennsylvania**

**Virginia**

**Wisconsin**

**Brief competitive applications are due by Friday, April 24, 2020 (11:59 p.m. Eastern Time).**

ASTC will review and consider every application received from eligible institutions. Selected institutions will receive a total of \$5,000 in support.

**Eligible applicants are:**

- ASTC-member institutions (science centers and museums) in good standing
- Institutions physically located in the designated areas
- Institutions that will use Voya Foundation support to help make possible their plans for developing, enhancing, and/or adapting STEM-engagement programs and resources for the general public during the COVID-19 pandemic. (Examples include, but are not limited to, videos, live science demonstrations, virtual field trips, do-at-home activities, classroom curricula, family guides, downloadable education materials, and other programs and resources.)

**Funds must be used to:**

- Develop programs and resources that align state education standards
- Meet a demonstrated need, or multiple needs, in the community

**If awarded, your institution will be required to:**

- Make programs and resources widely accessible to the general public
- Submit—by November 30, 2020—a brief report summarizing how the funds were used and describing work the funding helped support, audiences reached, and other impacts of programs and resources delivered during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Provide ASTC with photos or videos of your programs and resources in action (video must be at least 720p, with a preference for 1080p resolution) that may be used by ASTC and Voya Foundation

## **Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:**

- Potential for meaningful impact in an institution's community, region, or state
- Potential for meaningful impact in the lives of the audiences and people your institution serves
- Potential for audiences to share and interact with your programs (such as posting videos or photos of their projects on your social-media channels)
- Potential for improved institutional effectiveness and capacity
- Potential for reaching audiences that do not have internet access
- Size of institution, with a preference for those with annual operating income of less than \$10 million in the most recently completed fiscal year

## **Application and Award Process**

All applications must be submitted through ASTC's application platform. Applications that are mailed or emailed will not be considered. [Click here to preview the application and questions.](#)

The deadline to apply is Friday, April 24, 2020 (11:59 p.m. Eastern Time).

[Click here to begin your application.](#)

All applicants will receive notification of their award status by email in early May.

If your application is selected, you will also receive a brief Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with ASTC, and your institution will be responsible for returning a signed copy.

Upon receipt of a signed MOA, ASTC will send a \$5,000 check or deposit funds electronically if desired.

**If you have any questions, please contact ASTC at [info@astc.org](mailto:info@astc.org).**