

Position Title: STEM Education Specialist & Science Consultant

Reports to: Science Team Lead

FTE: 1 FTE (full-time)

Salary Range: \$60,000 - \$70,000 dependent on experience

Start Date: April 1 - June 1, 2025 **Location:** Augusta, Maine (hybrid)

Maine Math & Science Alliance (MMSA) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that finds inspiring new ways to get people excited about science, technology, engineering and mathematics today, so that our youth can become the innovators and workforce of tomorrow. MMSA supports educators by:

- Developing professional development experiences for and with K-12 educators
- Conducting research and evaluation of STEM learning experiences
- Building relationships and networks to sustain systemic statewide improvement
- Providing high-quality professional development and programming that can influence the future of our state

MMSA nurtures a work culture that is very team-oriented, welcomes a mix of diverse staff with diverse backgrounds and includes some of the best talent in STEM education. We offer ample opportunities for professional development for continuous growth and skill enhancement.

Position Summary:

Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance is seeking a STEM Education Specialist to be based in their Augusta, ME office with a hybrid schedule option. The STEM Education Specialist plays a pivotal role in supporting MMSA's K-12 science education research initiatives and science consulting services. The position will split their time between these two projects:

- Maine SMART is a National Science Foundation (NSF) funded project led by the University of Maine. MMSA leads the education outreach component of the Maine-SMART project (K-16/workforce readiness). A key focus for this position will be implementing the Maine-BRIDGE initiative which aims to broaden participation in STEM fields and careers by increasing access to real-world, research-based STEM education opportunities for teachers and students. This will include pairing middle and high school educators with scientists in summer externships, and coaching the educators to translate their experiences into the classroom.
- <u>Science Consulting</u> MMSA designs professional learning, coaching, and technical assistance tailored to the evolving needs of STEM educators in Maine. A key focus for this position will be leading, coordinating, and facilitating science professional learning for educators in Maine and New England. Our current <u>professional learning packages</u> including *Intro to OpenSciEd* (K-12) and *Instructional Routines to Support Science Sensemaking* (K-12). MMSA is proud to partner with OpenSciEd as a Certified Professional Learning Provider.

Key Responsibilities:

Professional Learning and Coaching

- Design, develop, and deliver high-quality professional learning experiences (including workshops, webinars, externships, coaching sessions, and cohort-based communities of practice) for K-12 educators in Maine and New England.
- Lead contracted professional learning sessions with school districts, focusing on implementing evidence based instructional practices.
- Facilitate topics related to the National Research Council's *Framework for K-12 Science Education* and the *Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)* including 3-dimensional learning, assessments, and high-quality instructional materials like OpenSciEd.
- Provide individual and group coaching to science educators to support their professional growth and classroom practice.
- Identify and connect educators with partner scientists for two weeks of scientific research (summer 2025).
- Guide Maine-BRIDGE participant teachers to create lesson plans that integrate topics into curriculum and to support students in participating in Maine State Science Fairs.
- Host BRIDGE to the Classroom Writing Retreats and Classroom Institutes.

Project Management and Coordination

- Manage and coordinate multiple science consulting contracts simultaneously.
- Oversee new inquiries and negotiations with schools and districts.
- Monitor project budget, support labor planning, and review monthly financial reports to ensure accuracy of expenses and revenue.
- Track and report on science consulting activities and impact, including quarterly MMSA reports and biannual OpenSciEd reports.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with school districts to better understand administrators' and educators' needs and goals related to science education.

Science Consulting Strategy, Vision & Leadership

- Develop a vision and strategy for science consulting services and professional learning.
- Stay current on research and best practices in science education.
- Attend relevant professional development opportunities to enhance knowledge and skills.
- Identify, share, and scale best practices that advance access to STEM learning across Maine.
- Train and coordinate with other science consultants as needed to fulfill contracts.

Marketing and Communications

- Collaborate with the marketing team to recruit participants, promote professional learning opportunities, share key findings, elevate educator knowledge, and celebrate successes through blog posts, social media, and other appropriate channels.
- Develop and deliver presentations at conferences, board meetings, and other events.

Requirements:

- Master's degree preferred or equivalent experience in Science Education, Curriculum and Instruction, or a closely related field.
- Minimum 5 years of experience as a K-12 science educator. Preference for expertise utilizing storylines or model-based inquiry approaches.
- Demonstrated experience in designing and delivering high-quality professional learning for educators
- Strong understanding of NGSS and current best practices in science teaching and learning.
- Experience with OpenSciEd curriculum strongly preferred.
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, and presentation skills.
- Strong initiative, organization, and time management skills.

- Ability to work independently and as part of a collaborative team.
- Proficiency in using technology for teaching and learning (Google Workspace, Mac OS, and standard office technology).
- Demonstrated commitment to equity and inclusion in education.
- Valid Maine driver's license and access to reliable transportation (preferred).

This position requires in-person attendance at monthly organization-wide meetings at the MMSA offices in Augusta, Maine. Occasional travel within Maine and nationally, including occasional overnight stays, will be required for project-related activities, science consulting contracts, events, and conferences, with travel expenses covered by MMSA. It is expected that the person in this position resides in New England, or is willing to move to New England upon hire. This position can work from home for part of the time if desired. MMSA will provide a laptop and essential home office equipment (e.g., external monitor, laptop stand).

Applicants must be authorized to work for any employer in the U.S. We are unable to sponsor or take over sponsorship of an employment Visa at this time.

Benefits of the Job:

- Attractive health plan with low to no contributions
- Employer-paid family dental, family vision, Life, STD, LTD
- Up to 10% 401K match
- 14 paid holidays
- Paid time off for birthday and floating holiday for religious purposes
- 20 paid vacation days
- 15 paid sick days

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three professional references to https://doi.org/nc.2246, Augusta, ME 04338

Materials should be submitted by **March 10th** to ensure full consideration.

Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance is an equal opportunity employer that is committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We prohibit discrimination and harassment of any kind based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, or any other protected characteristic as outlined by federal, state, or local laws. This policy applies to all employment practices within our organization. MMSA makes hiring decisions based solely on qualifications, merit, and business needs at the time.