

BIOTECHNOLOGY EXPLORER AWARD

SPONSORED BY BIO-RAD LABORATORIES

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Bio-Rad's Biotechnology Explorer™ Program and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) have partnered to recognize an outstanding high school teacher who has made biotechnology learning accessible to the classroom. This award has been established in memory of Ron Mardigian, the inspiration behind and founder of the Biotechnology Explorer program.

AWARD

The award consists of a \$250 monetary gift, a \$500 certificate for Bio-Rad products and up to \$750 in expenses to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education. The awardee will be honored at the Awards Banquet; the awardee and one teacher guest of the awardee will be invited to dinner with members of Bio-Rad's Explorer team.

ELIGIBILITY

Teachers of biotechnology in grades 9-12, between 3 – 15 years of experience teaching biotechnology.

AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications should reflect National Science Education Standards and must include the following information in the order presented:

- ★ a completed and signed application form;
- ★ a narrative describing how they implement the teaching of biotechnology in the classroom, not to exceed 500 words;
- ★ a summary of an individual research project completed by one of their students, not to exceed 250 words
- ★ a brief description of how their teaching curriculum was modified to meet student needs, not to exceed 250 words;
- ★ a one-page, single-sided, single-spaced vita that includes teaching experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards, and published material;
- ★ three letters of support from individuals and groups who are familiar with the applicant's work. 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; and
- ★ a completed and signed checklist.

Upon receipt, applications become the property of NSTA. Applications will not be returned to applicants. Late or faxed applications will not be accepted. All material must be in one envelope. Completed applications must be received by November 30.



BIOTECHNOLOGY EXPLORER AWARD

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Name _____ Title _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____ E-mail _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____ E-mail _____

How many years have you been a classroom teacher teaching science? _____ Current Grade Level? _____

When did you begin teaching biotechnology in your classroom? _____

Have you ever received an NSTA award? _____ If so, list year _____ School Population _____

School Type Public Private DoD Urban Rural Suburban

Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's Name _____ Phone Number _____

I certify that the applicant is a full-time classroom teacher at the above referenced school, and the program described herein has existed for one year or more and is ongoing. I fully support the submission of this application.

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

Send your original application and supporting materials to:

Biotechnology Explorer Award
NSTA
1840 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201-3000

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Questions? Please visit our website at www.nsta.org or e-mail awards@nsta.org.



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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. If you have questions regarding your application, please e-mail awards@nsta.org.

Complete the list, sign it, and attach it to your application.

- Each entry includes a completed application form signed by you and your principal;
- narrative of application;
- description;
- summary of student research project;
- one-page vita; and
- three (3) letters of support.
- Application is bound together with a heavy-duty staple or binder clip (no presentation binders).

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. Your application will not be returned and becomes the property of NSTA. If you have received an award for this project from another provider, you must notify NSTA.

If your application is selected to receive an award, NSTA reserves the right to reproduce information/photos/other content in promotional materials and on the NSTA website. By submitting materials that contain images of students and other individuals, you assume complete responsibility for obtaining appropriate release consent forms and permission to transfer these materials to NSTA.

Signed _____ Date _____



NSTA AWARDS – 2009/10
Biotechnology Explorer Award
Official Scoring Guide

Name: _____

City/State: _____

Years teaching biotechnology: _____

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Superior	Weight	Total
Application Form – Form is completed and includes signatures by all required parties.						Yes or No	
Narrative –describing how they implement the teaching of biotechnology not to exceed 500 words	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Summary –of an individual research project completed by one of their students, not to exceed 250 words	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Brief Description – of how their teaching curriculum was modified to meet student needs, not to exceed 250 words:	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Vita – Includes teaching experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards and published materials. (One page, single-sided, single-spaced only.)	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Letters of Support –3 letters of support addressing qualities of impact. Letters may come from colleagues, students, parents, administrators or community representatives. (Each letter must be no more than three pages, single-sided, single-spaced.)	1 1 1	2 2 2	3 3 3	4 4 4	5 5 5	X 1 X 1 X 1	

Grand Total

Comments: _____

Judge: _____ **Date:** _____