



INSTITUTE for  
CIVIC &  
COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT



## AY 2021-2022: PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Students: Become a STEM Counts Ambassador!

### OVERVIEW

The STEM Counts (formerly known as America Counts) program is an opportunity for students at San Francisco State University to develop their leadership and professional skills, in a service setting. STEM Counts program participants, also known as STEM Counts Ambassadors, help bring a new and inspiring perspective to STEM lessons and career opportunities in STEM. Through their time, enthusiasm and experiences, it is our hope that STEM Counts Ambassadors will encourage and inspire young people to progress further in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects.

STEM Counts Ambassadors also participate in specialized leadership training, such as workshops and one-on-one meetings to learn how to form meaningful relationships in the community and carry out public engagement projects, in which they use the skills developed to represent San Francisco State University while providing support to a variety of schools and community-based science and technology initiatives. STEM Ambassadors are placed in after-school programs as well as outside traditional learning venues, such as museums and non-profit organizations, to better include people who cannot or do not engage with STEM in conventional ways.

Additionally, in alignment with San Francisco Unified School District, many participating host sites offer STEAM programming. STEAM program integrates Artistic practices and Technology into the teaching of Science, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM with an A!) Through collaborative exploration, students build the critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed to stay current in the 21st century. According to the California Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Learning Network, "a STE[A]M-literate student is not only an innovator and critical thinker, but is able to make meaningful connections between school, community, work and global issues."

### WHAT DO STEM COUNTS AMBASSADORS DO?

Specific assignments may vary based on host organization needs: nonetheless, we anticipate that most STEM Counts Ambassadors' assignments to be heavily direct service.\*

For example, STEM Counts Ambassadors could:

- Tutor and mentor K-12 students
- Prepare and facilitate tutoring workshops, collaborative projects, or academic support sessions for small groups of students
- Recruit, train, and coordinate (but not select) volunteers, including high school and college students and older adults
- Help students engage in areas of STEM, by using effective instructional strategies and educational resources, with hands-on and inspiring content.
- Engage students in a variety of fun asset STEM building activities, such as: journal keeping, reading, games, homework assistance, etc.
- Structure long-term ways for involving community members in STEM project activities
- Generate materials, supplies, and space for STEM focused initiatives, projects, and activities
- Conduct community education, outreach, and awareness related to the project/program
- Serve as positive role models, and provide feedback to students using positive reinforcement techniques to encourage and motivate students

*\*Note: Location of host organization sites will be forthcoming. The majority will be within a close distance from the SF State main campus.*

### BENEFITS

- Build your resume for graduate school and/or your future career
- Networking opportunities with education, non-profit, and community partners
- Professional development provided by your site and ICCE
- Be part of a cohort community that is committed to inspire, learn and engage

## FEDERAL WORK-STUDY COMPENSATION

- Federal work- study: \$16.32 per hour

## QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

- Receive Financial Aid Work-Study for 2021-2022
- Must be a current SF State undergraduate or graduate student. Undergraduate students must be enrolled in at least 6 units for fall 2021 and graduate students must be enrolled in at least 4 units.
- Available to work a minimum of 8 hours a week, during after school hours (~2-6pm) and for the duration of the academic year (Fall 2021 & Spring 2022)
- Must be able to work in person at organization host site
- Must pass a background check and be negative for Tuberculosis
- Have a desire to improve STEM education and must have interest in working with youth
- A commitment to working in racially, ethnically, and economically diverse communities is a must
- Possess maturity, respect for youth, ability to listen with patience and an open mind
- Have ability to work in a diverse setting and a passion for making a positive impact in one's community
- Open to all majors and both undergraduate and graduate levels
- Desired (though not limited to) Majors: Mathematics, Computer Science, Engineering, Earth Sciences, Health Sciences, Information Technology, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Education

## SUPERVISION AND WORK

Your work will always be done in the presence of, and under the direction and supervision of, an after-school program coordinator or other school and/or host organization employee. Your work is dependent on the host organizations' need and thus will vary—you may, at times, work one-on-one with a student; you may work with small groups; you may work with large groups. Your work will be STEM based. Although you may be asked to perform occasional clerical or housekeeping tasks (making copies, straightening the room, etc.) the great majority of your time will be helping students/ or the organization's participants with their STEM focused needs and initiatives.

## TRAINING: CONTINUAL SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT

A critical component of the Stem Counts Program is the training and development provided to cultivate the STEM Counts Ambassadors' nascent leadership, teamwork, and professional skills. STEM Counts Ambassadors are required to attend the host site's ongoing training and orientation. Prior to your first day of service, all STEM Counts Ambassadors are required to participate in a virtual pre-service orientation (1 hour) facilitated by ICCE's STEM Programming and Resource Coordinator. In addition, to the training provided by the host site and the pre-service orientation, the training and development for the STEM Counts Ambassadors also includes regular leadership development sessions, along with support, feedback, and mentorship from ICCE's STEM Programming and Resources Coordinator.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Students submit an online application form (including returning America Counts participants).
2. ICCE program staff interview (via Zoom) applicants who pass the initial screening.
3. The interview is a way for us to get to know you and answer any questions you may have!
4. If offered a position, ICCE program staff will identify and match the assignment that's the best fit with the host organization and student.
5. STEM Ambassadors attend an orientation/training, complete background check and TB test before beginning their assignments, along with ongoing training sessions that are required of all STEM Ambassadors prior to beginning at their host site.
6. Selected STEM Ambassadors:
  - Mandatory Orientation (online): Friday, Sept. 3, 2021 (time TBD)
  - Expected start date at host organizations: Sept. 6, 2021 (pending on background check and TB tests). *More information from ICCE as to how and where to complete LiveScan and TB test will be given prior to beginning at the assigned host organization site.*

## APPLY TO BE A STEM COUNTS AMBASSADOR!

- Deadline: Aug. 6, 2021. Apply early! Positions open until filled.
- Applicants will be interviewed on a rolling basis.

**APPLY TO BE A STEM AMBASSADOR!**

[Click here to complete an application!](#)