## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## The Minnesota STEM Ecosystem: Partnership Grant Invitations

## October 27, 2025

We're thrilled to announce that 47 organizations have been invited to advance to the full application stage of the STEM Ecosystem Partnership Grant process! As part of the investment from the Minnesota Legislature, the STEM Ecosystem will be awarding grants to nonprofit organizations supporting youth STEM career exploration and workforce development through STEM internships, AI Pedagogy, the creation/expansion of robotics teams, drone programs (intracurricular and out of school time), development/expansion of VR learning programs and other emerging technology learning programs, the development of educator externships in emerging technology and in-demand career pathways.

This competitive grant opportunity is designed to support STEM learning and workforce development that prepare learners for high-demand careers. Applications will be reviewed by a highly qualified cross-sector committee to ensure alignment with program goals, funding criteria, and legislative intent.

The initial Letter of Interest (LOI) portal—open from August 11 to September 12, 2025—received an overwhelming response, with more than 120 submissions from across Minnesota.

- Final grant recipients will be announced by January 5, 2026.
- Funded projects will operate from January 5, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

To learn more about the organizations that are advancing, please visit the <u>Partnership Grant</u> <u>Opportunity</u> page at <u>stemmn.org</u>.

The Mission of the Minnesota STEM Ecosystem is to close the STEM learning and workforce opportunity gap for all of Minnesota's Learners! The STEM Ecosystem brings together Industry, K12 Education, Higher Education, and Out-of-School STEM Learning Programs to align formal and informal STEM education with workforce needs, expand access to high-quality programming, and drive innovation and workforce development through regional and statewide collaboration.