

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) – Principles of Biomedical Science (PBS)

2016-2017 STEM Scale-Up Program

Overview: Funding will assist Iowa high schools in implementing or expanding upon the PLTW Principles of Biomedical Science (PBS) course. Awardees will be expected to send at least one educator to PLTW PBS Core Training—for which tuition, meals and lodging are allowable expenses, as well as any required PBS equipment and supplies and the PLTW Biomedical Science participation fee.

Grade Levels: 9-12

Program Summary

[Project Lead The Way \(PLTW\)](#) is a nonprofit organization providing transformative learning experiences for K-12 students and teachers across the U.S. PLTW empowers students to develop in-demand, transportable knowledge and skills through K-12 program pathways that include [PLTW Launch](#) (K-5), [PLTW Gateway](#) (6-8), and high school programs: [PLTW Biomedical Science](#), [PLTW Engineering](#) and [PLTW Computer Science](#). PLTW's teacher training and ongoing support mechanisms allows teachers to engage their students in real-world learning in schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Program Objectives and Description

In the PLTW PBS course, students explore concepts of biology and medicine to determine factors that led to the death of a fictional person. While investigating the case, students examine autopsy reports, investigate medical history, and explore medical treatments that might have prolonged the person's life. The activities and projects introduce students to human physiology, basic biology, medicine and research processes while allowing them to design their own experiments to solve problems.

What does the program provide to the educator?

Selected schools will be granted a \$12,000 award to help support the implementation of a new, or expansion of an existing, PLTW PBS course. Allowable expenses include: PLTW Biomedical Science participation fee (\$2,000), tuition, meals and lodging expenses for the two-week PLTW PBS Core Training (~\$3,400 per teacher) and any PBS equipment and supplies from the PLTW Biomedical Science Inventory Workbook. Once schools have registered and have signed the standard award agreement, PLTW will disburse payment beginning in July 2016.

What is required by the educator in order to implement this program?

- Review the [Register for PLTW](#) webpage and select a [District Administrator](#) (DA).
- If not already registered, DA begins registration for the school district and/or participating schools by completing the online registration form. PLTW will then contact the DA with further instructions. *Registration does not commit the school district to PLTW implementation.*
- Review the PLTW agreement (*coming soon*) with the school board, superintendent and legal department to ensure all parties are aware of district and school responsibilities.
- Execute LEA Agreement with PLTW and submit W-9 to PLTW as a requirement of the STEM Scale-Up Program.
- Select a teacher to instruct the PLTW PBS course and add teacher to PLTW database. Teachers should be excited to teach a project-based curriculum and meet the requirements of the PLTW agreement.
- Once added to database, [register teacher for PBS Core Training](#) hosted at [The University of Iowa College of Engineering](#) or [Iowa State University College of Engineering](#) by July 1, 2016. Teachers must successfully complete all required online PLTW PBS Readiness Training modules prior to attending Core Training, of which they must successfully complete and pass.
- Purchase necessary equipment and supplies from the [PLTW Biomedical Science Inventory Workbook](#).
- Each awarded school will be required to: **Roster all PLTW students, offer End of Course Assessments and Submit end of calendar year reporting**, including submission of receipts and full allocation of funds for allowable expenses.

Standards Alignment: Standards alignment frameworks for PLTW Biomedical Science: Principles of Biomedical Science (PBS) are available at: https://www2.pltw.org/I/82012/2015-10-05/blj2y/82012/20830/PBS_StandardsbyStandards.pdf

Program Video: PLTW Biomedical Science: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnYj6-PEoIA>