New York Sea Grant and The Long Island Sound Study are Currently Accepting Applications for Mentor Teachers

Stony Brook, New York - New York Sea Grant and The Long Island Sound Study (LISS) are currently accepting applications from educators for this year’s Long Island Sound Mentor Teacher program in New York. Pairs of teachers from each of the following grade level subsets are encouraged to apply: K-8 and 9-12. Two teams of two Mentor Teachers will be selected (or formed), and each pair will work together to plan and execute a professional development session for their peers that will center on a topic relevant to the Long Island Sound, its importance, and/or its ecological health.

New York Sea Grant will offer guidance and funding support to the selected Mentor Teachers to help them plan, develop, promote, and prepare for the workshop. There is also funding for each pair to provide a required outdoor component as part of the session. Each teacher will receive a stipend ($30.00/hour for 40 hours = $1,200 stipend per teacher), a programming budget, and access to Long Island Sound resources for their workshop and participants.

The Long Island Sound Mentor Teacher (LISMT) program, is sponsored by New York Sea Grant and funded by the EPA Long Island Sound Study. The program goals are to promote the use of Long Island Sound educational resources, and to promote the interdisciplinary use of the Long Island Sound watershed and its resources in K-12 classrooms.

How to apply:

The application will ask you to submit a current resume or CV, which is optional. It will also require you to provide a 2-3 paragraph statement describing:

a) Why you would like to be a LIS Mentor Teacher
b) Your ideas for the workshop, which must 1) be designed for use in the classroom or the field, 2) align with the Next Generation Science Standards or the New York State Science Learning Standards*, and 3) include a field component related to the Long Island Sound within the Long Island Sound watershed.

*Please be specific about the Standards your workshop would address (example: ESS2-4: developing a model to describe the cycling of water through Earth's systems).
Details to know before applying:

1) Educators are encouraged to apply having already found a partner educator to develop the workshop with them. (If applying as a team, only one of the team members is required to apply; the application will ask the applying educator to submit their partner’s information). Applicants who apply without another educator in mind, if selected, will be paired up with another independent applicant.

2) Ideal workshops should be interdisciplinary, hands-on, and offer a variety of lessons and activity ideas for workshop participants. The program will provide a budget for Mentor Teachers to provide participants take-home materials for their use in the workshop, etc.

3) The application review process will take about 3-5 weeks, after which all applicants will be contacted with the results.

4) The Long Island Sound Study’s NY Outreach Coordinator will work with the selected Mentor Teachers to offer support and guidance throughout the workshop development process. Mentor Teachers are expected to dedicate at least 40 hours to the preparation of the workshop.

5) The 2020 Long Island Sound Study Mentor Teacher workshops will take place in the Fall, on a date to be chosen by the selected Mentor Teachers and the LISS Outreach Coordinator. The workshops must take place in New York before October 30, 2020.

If you have any questions please contact Jimena Perez-Viscasillas, LISS Outreach Coordinator, at jbp255@cornell or 631-632-8730.