STEM PILOT PROGRAM

The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America began the STEM pilot program in January 2011. Units from 20 councils across the country tested requirements for the various areas of emphasis. The STEM pilot program continues today.

Requirements for each area of interest are being evaluated and tested. (At this time, participation is limited only to units and Scouts that were approved by the council STEM committee.) The requirements and any awards and recognitions earned during the pilot phase are subject to change. The national STEM committee is evaluating and adjusting requirements based on youth input.



The official STEM program will be made public nationwide in fall 2012.

For more information about Project STEM, go to www.scouting.org/STEM.

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The future STEMs
from science,
technology,
engineering,
and mathematics





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NBOUT PROJECT STEM

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. These disciplines are considered by many to be the foundation for academic and professional fields of an advanced society. In many forums—including political/governmental and academic—the strength of its STEM workforce is viewed as an indicator of a nation's ability to sustain itself.

To engage youth members in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, the Boy Scouts of America has created a new emphasis that incorporates elements of STEM in its current advancement programs. The BSA's STEM initiative gives Scouts an opportunity to explore relevant skills and experiences and for their achievements to be recognized. The aim is to expose youth to opportunities and help them develop skills critical for the competitive world market.



Former NASA astronaut Dr. Bernard Harris visited with members from the Santa Clara County Council. These youths participated in the BSA's pilot STEM program. Dr. Harris serves as national spokesperson for the program.



RECOGNITION

The NOVA Award is presented for understanding the basics of STEM. Scouts who want a more in-depth knowledge can pursue the SUPERNOVA Award, which has a higher level of requirements.

NOVA Awards

The youth receives a patch with a pin for each STEM segment earned.*

*Requirements for Venturers are still being developed.

Cub Scouts

Science Everywhere, Tech Talk, Swing!, Designed to Crunch

Boy Scouts

Shoot!, Start Your Engines, Whoosh!, Designed to Crunch

SUPERNOVA Awards

The youth receives a medal and a certificate.

Cub Scouts

Dr. Luis W. Alvarez—Wolf/Bear
Dr. Charles H. Townes—Webelos

Boy Scouts

Dr. Bernard Harris—Bronze Thomas Edison—Silver Albert Einstein—Gold

Venturing

Dr. Sally Ride