



St. Teresa's Academy STEM/STEAM Certificate Program

The Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEM/STEAM) certificate program at St. Teresa's Academy acknowledges students for their achievements and involvement in STEM/STEAM-related activities. This multi-year effort focuses on several academic subject areas and community learning, designed to provide preparation and opportunities in STEM/STEAM fields in and beyond the classroom. Students earning a STEM/STEAM certificate will:

- ◆ Be honored at the annual STEM/STEAM celebration with parents
- ◆ Receive a STEM/STEAM certificate at the awards ceremony
- ◆ Receive special designation in the STA commencement program
- ◆ Earn silver honor cords to wear at graduation
- ◆ Receive documentation on their transcript confirming STEM/STEAM Certificate completion

Online application opens 2nd Semester freshman year and must be completed by end of sophomore year.

STEM/STEAM Certificate Requirements

Academic Requirements

Maintain an 87.0% cumulative weighted GPA.

Successfully complete the minimum academic units from each category:

Math: 4

Science: 4 - **Students must have a Physics and/or AP-level science course**

Electives: 2 credits in math, science, computer science and/or fine arts. Courses selected will determine STEM Certificate or STEAM Certificate designation.

STEM/STEAM Online Portfolio - Complete a portfolio by March 1st of senior year that meets the rubric criteria.

Mandatory Class Meetings - Meet at least once each semester with Dr. Sonnenberg.

Optional Activities - Candidate may choose to:

- Participate in local STEM/STEAM competitions such as Art Awards Competition, FBLA (certain categories), FIRST Robotics, Esports, Science Olympiad, etc.
- Attend information programs or open houses at STEM/STEAM-related organizations.

Attendance and Behavior - Comply with attendance and behavior policies in the Student Handbook. Students may be removed from the program for: a 25% absentee from a course, SBR Category II, or SBR Category I (immediate removal).

Community Learning Requirements

Clubs & Extracurriculars - Join and fully participate in at least one STA STEM/STEAM club or extracurricular activity for at least two years. Clubs that are STEM/STEAM-certificate approved are listed in the STA Club catalog.

Professional Contact - Log a minimum of four STA-approved professional contacts. These are also provided by Dr. Sonnenberg.

Job Shadow Experience - Complete at least 3 job shadow experiences for a total of 9 hours in a STEM/STEAM-related field. Job shadowing must be approved by Dr. Sonnenberg at least 3 weeks prior.

Community Volunteer - Complete a minimum of 10 hours in one of the following:

- Volunteer for the STA Math Hub and/or Writing Center.
- Assist with STEAM summer camps for grade school girls.
- Other STEM/STEAM-related volunteer activities as approved by Dr. Sonnenberg.

Questions? Contact Dr. Sonnenberg, Director of STEAM Projects & Education: msonnenberg@stteresasacademy.org