



Iowa Governor’s STEM Advisory Council  
Guidelines for

**STEM BEST®**  
**Businesses Engaging Students and  
Teachers**

**STEM BEST® Curriculum**

STEM BEST® programs will inspire lifelong learning within interdisciplinary environments, stimulating constructive connections between life and the work world that awaits. A robust STEM curriculum that is relevant, dynamic and focused on personalized, deeper learning will include:

- Mastery of STEM focused, career-driven, academic curriculum, demonstrating concepts built into the Iowa CORE standards.
- Self-directed learning
- Competency-based education showcasing student outcomes
- Reformed instructional strategies that support project-based learning
- Focus on the Universal Constructs
  - Critical thinking
  - Complex communication
  - Creativity
  - Collaboration
  - Flexibility and adaptability
  - Productivity and accountability
- Authentic assessment
- Career and college readiness as key outcome
- Integration of arts and culture curriculum when appropriate

Successful STEM BEST® models engage business, economic and workforce development, and higher education in co-development of curriculum aligned to the needs of local workplaces while meeting the state academic standards.