STEM SATURDAYS

New Toolkit: An Afterschool Guide to Partnering on Career and Technical Education

From Afterschool Snack

In July 2018, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, or Perkins V, was passed by Congress and signed into law. The legislation reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act and provides much needed updates to the law that reflect the ever changing needs of the students and the workforce. Fortunately for the afterschool field, new updates to the law provide opportunities for statewide afterschool networks, along with programs and providers, to engage their state and local school districts, community colleges, and technical schools on how afterschool and summer programs contribute to the development of workforce skills, career interest, and job readiness among students. The Afterschool Alliance has created a toolkit to provide afterschool stakeholders and advocates with specific guidance on how to utilize a number of new updates provided in Perkins V to improve the use of afterschool programming as a core strategy to improve workforce/career development programs.

Learn more

Funding Opportunity: Women & Minorities in STEM Fields

Deadline: May 21, 2019

The United States Department of Agriculture seeks proposals for a grant that supports research, education/teaching, and extension projects that increase participation by women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas in STEM. NIFA intends this program to address educational needs within broadly defined areas of food, agriculture, natural resources, and human (FANH) sciences. Applications recommended for funding must highlight and emphasize the development of a competent and qualified workforce in the FAHN sciences. WAMS-funded projects improve the economic health and viability of rural communities by developing research and extension initiatives that focus on new and emerging employment opportunities in STEM occupations. Projects that contribute to the economic viability of rural communities are also encouraged.

Read more & apply

Insurance Didn't Cover 2-year-old's Wheelchair So a High School Robotics Team Built One

From The Hill

A 2-year-old boy suffering from a rare genetic disorder that doesn't allow him to walk needed an electric wheelchair that his parents insurance didn't cover, so a high school robotics team built him one instead. The Farmington High School robotics team in Minnesota last year built 2-year-old Cillian Jackson a custom electric wheelchair with the help of the University of Delaware's GoBabyGo program, which specializes in creating custom devices for children with limited mobility, according to CBS News. Using plans and models sent from the GoBabyGo program, the Rogue Robotics Team from Farmington High School created Jackson an electric wheelchair that was converted from a Power Wheels toy car originally meant for playing in the yard.

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