

VERMONT SCIENCE INITIATIVE

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION

Please type all responses to essay questions and clearly print other information on the application. Review of applications will begin on March 16, 2007.

Only complete applications will be considered. A complete application includes:

- _____ Application for Enrollment Cover Sheet.
- _____ Part I to be completed by applicant.
- _____ Part II to be completed by applicant's school principal.
- _____ Part III to be completed by applicant's district superintendent.
- _____ An official copy of the applicant's transcripts (both undergraduate and graduate).
- _____ Two letters of recommendation.

Please send your complete application to:

Ms. Cathy Higley
The Graduate Office
Johnson State College
337 College Hill
Johnson, VT 05656.

Contact Information:

For Administrative questions please contact:

Ms. Cathy Higley
802-635-1244
Catherine.Higley@jsc.vsc.edu

For questions regarding the content of the program please contact:

Dr. Elizabeth Dolci
802-635-1482
Elizabeth.Dolci@jsc.vsc.edu

APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT
in
The Vermont Science Professional Development Initiative
For Teachers of Science, Grades K-8

Name of Applicant _____

School _____

School Address _____

Grade Level/Position _____

Experience in teaching K-8 _____

Other teaching experience _____

Area of licensure _____

Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees _____

Home Mailing Address _____

School Telephone _____ Home Telephone _____

E-mail _____ Fax Number _____

Social Security number _____

Part I:

To be completed by applicant.

Answer the following to the best of your ability. Feel free to add any additional information that you wish to have included with your application. Please type your responses and attach them to this page.

1. Provide a written statement of no more than two single-spaced pages which addresses the following questions: a) what are your personal and professional goals, and how will earning an advanced degree support them; 2) what you hope to learn during your graduate studies; and c) what contributions your presence will bring to the VSI program.
2. Indicate your professional development experience in science.
3. Have you had opportunities to serve in a leadership capacity in your school district? If so, please describe. If not, please describe how you think that this program might benefit you in this regard.
4. What resources have you/your school utilized in delivery of standards-based science?
 - a. Science Initiatives
 - b. Standards-based curriculum

I understand the following:

- **The VSI is a three-year graduate program and will require a time commitment on my part that includes per calendar year, a two-week summer session and approximately five weekends (Friday/Saturday) of class meetings per semester during the academic year. My attendance may also be required for additional after school leadership and mentoring activities.**
- **Arrange regular monthly, one-on-one meetings with my “mentor teacher leader.”**
- **One aspect of my involvement is to play a leadership role in science in my school/district which will be developed in concert with assistance from VSI faculty AND the active involvement of my principal.**

Signature of Applicant

Date

Part II

To be completed by applicant's school *principal*.

In order for a teacher to participate in this program, his/her school principal must indicate how this professional development will support the implementation of the local action plan for raising student performance in science. Please attach your responses to this sheet.

Name of Teacher _____

Name of Principal _____

1. Please check either A or B. If neither applies please describe what your school/district is doing in regard to an action plan.

___ A. Our school/district already has an action plan in place for science. (Please provide a copy of the relevant parts of your action plan.)

___ B. Over the next year our school/district will put an action plan in science in place.

2. Since the goal of this project is to develop school/district-based teacher leaders, please describe the potential professional development roles the applicant might fulfill in your school.

3. Describe the qualities this applicant possesses that would make her/him a strong candidate for participation in this project.

4. What specific training do you, as an administrator, need in order to assess high quality standards-based science?

I fully support the participation of the applicant in the Vermont Science Initiative. I understand the responsibilities of the school/district include:

- **providing release time for the teacher's participation in VSI coursework.**
- **payment of \$3,000/ year towards the cost of the graduate credits for the participating teacher.**
- **active support by me or other designated school administrator including attendance at occasional meetings.**
- **Develop a strategy to utilize the participant's leadership in the implementation of the local action plan for raising student performance in science in concert with the teacher and with assistance from VSI faculty.**

School Principal

Signature

Date

Please return this information to the applicant. *Review of applications will begin on March 16, 2007.*

Part III

To be completed by applicant's district *superintendent*.

The superintendent of the participant's school district must indicate how this professional development will support the implementation of the local action plan for raising student performance in science. Please attach your responses to this sheet.

Name of Teacher _____

Name of Superintendent _____

1. Since the goal of this project is to develop school/district-based teacher leaders, please describe the potential professional development roles the applicant might fulfill in your district.
2. What support do you as a superintendent need in order to fully benefit from a science teacher leader in your district?

I fully support the participation of the applicant in the Vermont Science Initiative. I understand the responsibilities of the school/district include:

- **providing release time for the teacher's participation in VSI coursework.**
- **payment of \$3,000/ year towards the cost of the graduate credits for the participating teacher.**
- **active support in the VSI by the participating teacher's principal or other designated school administrator.**
- **Develop a strategy to utilize the participant's leadership skills in the implementation of the local action plan for raising student performance in science.**

Superintendent

Signature Date

Please return this information to the applicant. *Review of applications will begin on March 16, 2007.*