

Q) I teach in Michigan; may I still participate?

A) Our program and activities are designed around the State of Ohio Science Standards, which are most applicable to teachers in Ohio. Priority is currently given to Ohio teacher participants. As availability permits, non-Ohio teachers may be admitted to the program.

Q) What do administrators do?

A) Administrators share the same experience that teacher participants do to better understand the process of developing and delivering high-quality science inquiry in early childhood classrooms. By sharing this experience, administrators are better equipped to support science inquiry within their own building.

Q) How long is the commitment? Can I just attend the Summer Institute?

A) The 2016 NURTURES program is a partial-year commitment, with all activities completed before December 31, 2016. Participants must attend all days of the Summer Institute, all academic year professional development hours, and complete the required academic year activities (which may include videotaping, lesson plan development and implementation, reflection activities, etc.). Failure to complete the commitment results in total reimbursement of all stipends, equipment, and graduate fees and tuition to the program.

Q) What if I don't have a bachelor's degree? Can I still participate?

A) Yes, you may still participate in the program even if you are not eligible for graduate credit. If you are interested in obtaining undergraduate credit for the course, you may apply for a competitive scholarship through the University of Toledo (not associated with or awarded through the NURTURES program). If you choose to participate in the program without pursuing college credit, you are still held to the same requirements of credit-seeking participants.

Q) My knowledge of technology is limited. Should I still apply?

A) We build opportunities to develop your skills with technology into our professional development program. Our trained staff is available to assist you, no matter what your skill level in technology currently is.

Q) In your recruitment presentation, you mention videotaping. What is this about?

A) The NURTURES program is funded by the National Science Foundation and includes a research component. Your commitment to the program includes participating in the research associated with the NURTURES program, which may include videotaping, surveys, classroom observations, or other participation in data creation or collection.

Q) How much work is involved?

A) Because the program is aligned with three credit hours of graduate coursework, participants will be expected to complete readings and assignments to prepare for daily activities within the Summer Institute. Facilitators are cognizant of the amount

of time spent within class during these two weeks and assignment load is appropriate for a three-credit hour class. Participants are expected to develop and implement high-quality science lessons for their own classroom throughout the academic year and actively prepare for the academic year professional development hours.

Q) I loved your program. Can I return?

A) We encourage interested individuals to apply for the program. We cannot guarantee placement to those who have attended in previous years. Repeat attendees may be admitted as space permits.