

Bacteriophages Bringing Research into the Classroom – Brandl, et al. Appendix A. BRIC Project Teacher Recruiting Document



Bringing Research Into the Classroom (BRIC)

General Information for Teachers

Bringing Research into the Classroom (BRIC) builds upon eight years of collaborative efforts between the Montana Tech Phage Discovery Program and Cfwep.Org. The project directors have designed this new program to include intensive teacher professional development, classroom bacteriophage discovery, and summer science and pedagogy academy. As part of a recently funded National Institutes of Health (NIH) Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA), Montana Tech Biology and Cfwep.Org are partnering with Montana middle and high school science teachers on this 5-year, \$1.25 million project. The project goal is to equip Montana's K-12 teachers with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to provide high-quality, health science research opportunities for students.

We are in the process of recruiting science teachers to join the project, for which classroom visits begin early 2015, and extend throughout the next four calendar years. Two cohorts of teachers will participate, both of which receive classroom phage discovery visits for four years. The first cohort of teachers will have summer academy in June 2015 and 2016, the second cohort in 2017 and 2018. Participating teachers and their students will be included in twice yearly assessment measures to determine the effectiveness of our programs. Teachers will be compensated for their participation.

Thank you for all you do!

BRIC Leadership Team

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - BRIC Program

What do I have to do – what is the scope of work?

- Host scientists/BRIC leadership for classroom visits starting January 2015
- Attend 7-day summer academy for 2 consecutive years; Cohort 1 June 2015 and June 2016; Cohort 2 June 2017 and June 2018
- Complete 3-credit online graduate course hosted by Montana Tech in fall semester following summer academy; **teacher agrees to enter the course for credit**
- Complete a research project on your area of interest or on your teaching
- Complete evaluation assessments and attend planning meetings as needed (no more than two per calendar year)

Will I be paid?

You will be paid up to \$3,000. Compensation for the two PD years is planned at \$2,250 paid over a two-year period; compensation for the two classroom-visits-only years is planned at \$750, again paid over a two-year period. Expenses for the summer academy (except for travel) and online course are covered by the project.

As a Cohort 2 participant, what does my schedule look like?

Cohort 2 is serving as a control to compare to Cohort 1 and to themselves. Therefore, the first two years for Cohort 2 just entails scientists visiting the classroom, you doing a couple of surveys and administering our student survey to your class. So, for Cohort 2, classroom visits by scientists occur Fall 2015-Spring 2016, and occur again Fall 2016-Spring 2017. In 2017, you are expected to complete a summer academy (about one week in mid-June) and enroll in the online graduate course in Fall 2017. Again scientists will visit your classroom in Fall 2017-Spring 2018. The 2017-2018 year is repeated in 2018-2019 (summer academy, fall course and classroom visits).

What is the cost for the summer academy and the course?

There is no cost for teachers. The BRIC program will cover all costs associated with the summer academy and the course, including materials, supplies and course books. Your stipend is expected to cover travel expenses to and from the summer academy.

How many credits do I earn for completing the course?

Three (3) graduate credits are earned for each professional development year, for a total of six (6) graduate credits over the project timeline.

How long does the course run and what is the meeting place and time?

The course runs during the Fall semester of each project year. It is an online course with no specific meeting place or time.

What content is covered in the online course?

The course covers basic microbiology, disease studies, research methods and pedagogical discussions. The course content and associated science skills can be applied across multiple, scientific disciplines.

How do I register for the online course?

Registration for the fall course will be done during the summer academy.

How do I register for the BRIC program?

Please submit completed application **as soon as possible** to Dr. Arlene Alvarado, Cfwep.Org, Montana Tech, 1300 West Park, Butte, MT 59701 (<u>aalvarado@mtech.edu</u>). You may send the application via regular post or email.



Bringing Research Into the Classroom (BRIC)

Teacher Application 2014

(Completion of this form does not require you to participate.)

Teacher's Name:
Email Address (school):
Email Address (personal):
School Name:
Grade Level:
School Address:
School Phone #:
Personal Phone #:
Principal's Name:
Principal's Email:
School District:

Essay Questions: please attach your answers to this application.

- 1. Please explain what you expect to gain professionally from this professional development training, including why you feel this training would enhance your science teaching.
- 2. Given what you know about your professional responsibilities, describe how you will manage your commitments to the BRIC project alongside your other personal and professional commitments.

Letter of Recommendation: Please submit a letter of recommendation from your school's principal.

Return completed application **as soon as possible** to Dr. Arlene Alvarado, Cfwep.Org, Montana Tech, 1300 West Park, Butte, MT 59701 (aalvarado@mtech.edu). You may send the application via regular post or email.