

NETL STEM EDUCATION AND OUTREACH



January 2026



NATIONAL ENERGY
TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) mission is to ensure America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions. Ensuring a future workforce that is well-trained in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) is a core value of DOE and central to the Department's current and future mission. NETL supports this effort in many ways, including implementation of a robust STEM Education and Outreach program.

Albany, OR • Morgantown, WV • Pittsburgh, PA • Houston, TX



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of ENERGY

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

NETL's STEM Education and Outreach program supports DOE's efforts to improve energy literacy and train the next generation of American scientists, engineers and energy researchers. The initiative sparks interest in and increases the public's awareness of STEM education. The program engages students, the public, program volunteers and faculty and staff at regional higher education institutions.

NETL STEM EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

NETL's STEM Ambassador Program enables students to meet and interact with NETL scientists and engineers during visits to regional schools and local STEM events. The program shows students the multiple, dynamic pathways to STEM occupations and careers.

NETL's STEM Education and Outreach Team plans and executes the Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia Regional Middle and High School Science Bowl Competitions.

- The Science Bowl involves middle school and high school teams in fast-paced, 16-minute, Jeopardy-style competitions where students are tested on questions taken from a range of STEM disciplines. Teams from within each state face off until a top middle school team and a top high school team prevail.
- The top teams from each state then advance to the National Science Bowl Competition in Washington, D.C.



NETL sponsors and supports the Energy Zone Exhibit at Pittsburgh's Kamin Science Center, which includes the Energy Challenge game.

- The Energy Challenge is a fun, quiz-style exhibit presented in a game show format.
- Both are located on the fourth floor of the Kamin Science Center, which attracts 1,500 students daily in peak season.
- For more information, visit: <https://kaminsciencecenter.org/exhibits/netl-energy-zone/>





NETL is a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) national laboratory dedicated to innovating and accelerating the nation's energy solutions in hydrocarbon, geothermal energy and critical minerals production. With research sites in Albany, Oregon; Morgantown, West Virginia; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, NETL operates as one laboratory to apply its expertise in subsurface materials and processes, materials engineering, energy conversion, systems analysis, computational science and program deployment to implement DOE programs across the nation and advance energy technologies. Through its collaborations and world-class research, NETL is strengthening national energy security and contributing to an America that leads the world with affordable, reliable and secure energy to fuel human prosperity.

Social



@NationalEnergyTechnologyLaboratory



@NETL_DOE



@NETL_DOE

Contacts

Adam Lott

K-12 STEM Education and Outreach

NETL

Adam.Lott@netl.doe.gov