Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Invites Middle and High School Science Teachers Nationwide to Compete for the Chance to Work with Scientists in the Science Ambassador Program

As the nation’s public health leader, CDC addresses scientific issues that can provide excellent educational opportunities for teachers and students. CDC recognizes that teachers have the educational training needed to develop effective lesson plans with activities that can bring science and public health into the classroom.

The Science Ambassador Program links science with the classroom. Science Ambassador is a program of Career Paths to Public Health, offered by CDC’s Office of Workforce and Career Development.

Through Science Ambassador, CDC scientists work with middle and high school science teachers and provide information about the challenges of current public health issues. During an intensive five-day workshop, teachers create lesson plans that engage students with compelling public health topics to foster their interest in becoming future public health professionals. During the workshop, teachers will have the opportunity to

- Tour selected CDC facilities, including the CDC Global Health Odyssey
- Learn from and interact with CDC scientists
- Participate in multiple sessions on selected topics led by public health professionals
- Participate in a seminar on developing educationally appropriate lesson plans
- Work in teams to develop science lesson plans based on public health topics such as West Nile Virus, obesity, autism, smoking and teen dating violence
- Enhance their professional network of teachers and public health scientists
- Present ideas for lesson plans to peers and obtain feedback

Lesson plans are developed to meet National Science Education standards and challenge students to think about science in new ways. Topics offer students the chance to apply science and public health principles in the real world. Following completion of the workshop, participants return to their schools to implement the lessons that will cultivate students’ ability to view public health and its relationship to the sciences as a relevant and exciting area of study. Teacher lesson plans are submitted for future publication. To view or download lesson plans developed by previous Science Ambassador participants, click on http://www.cdc.gov/excite/ScienceAmbassador/ambassador_pgm/lessonplans.htm.

Website: http://www.cdc.gov/scienceambassador

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