

**The Mining Association of South Carolina
Award for Innovative Teaching
of
The South Carolina Earth Science Curriculum Standards**

Purpose: This award is offered to encourage and support the implementation of the Earth Science Curriculum Standards for geology, mining, minerals, rock, soils, and related environment issues in grades K-12 in South Carolina.

1. The award will be presented to a teacher who has significantly advanced the teaching of earth science in grades K-12 in South Carolina. The award will be presented in the fall at an awards ceremony during the South Carolina Science Council meeting. The award will be \$5,000 that may be spent as the teacher chooses.
2. To be eligible for the award, a teacher must design a lesson, a module, or another teaching instrument that addresses instruction in geology, mining, minerals, rock, soils, or related environmental issues in a creative and effective manner. The materials can be an original design or an innovative revision or creative modification of existing teaching materials.
3. Materials will be judged on the following criteria:
 - a) They contain an instructional approach that is creative and innovative and has the potential to improve teaching practice.
 - b) They present sound, significant and appropriate concepts in geology, mining, minerals, rock, soils or related environmental issues that address the South Carolina Earth Science Curriculum Standards.
 - c) They are developmentally appropriate and meet the interests, knowledge, abilities, and experience of the students.
 - d) They demonstrate a respect for diverse ideas, skills, experiences and learning styles.
 - e) They contain a variety of appropriate assessment strategies that allow the students to demonstrate their achievements in skill and understanding as well as factual knowledge.

4. An application for the award should consist of:

- a) A data sheet showing the teacher's home address and phone number, school, school district, school address and phone number, e-mail address, and current teaching assignment.
- b) A lesson plan including a list of teaching materials.
- c) An identification of the targeted Earth Science Curriculum Standard(s) for geology, mining, minerals, rock, soils, or related environmental issues and a description of how the materials help students to meet the standard(s). The description should be limited to one printed page.
- d) A description of a plan to assess students' understanding of the targeted standard(s).
- e) A principal's statement indicating that the teaching materials will be in use during the current school year.

5. Completed applications should be mailed to:

Linda Sinclair
State Science Consultant, Division of Curriculum and Assessment
Office of Curriculum and Standards
South Carolina State Department of Education
Room 801-H Rutledge Building
Columbia, SC 29201.

Applications will be judged by a committee whose members are selected from the South Carolina Earth Science Teachers Association, The Mining Association of South Carolina, The South Carolina State Department of Education, and the University of South Carolina Center for Science Education.

APPLICATION FORM

**The Mining Association of South Carolina
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a) Personal Information:

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

School Phone Number: _____

School District: _____

Current Teaching Assignment: _____

b) Lesson Plan:

Please attach a lesson plan including a list of teaching materials.

c) Description:

Please attach a one-page description that identifies the targeted standard(s) and shows how the materials help students to meet the standard(s).

(Sec 3 a-e and 4 c)

d) Principal's Statement:

Please attach a statement from your principal indicating that the teaching materials will be in use during the current school year.

I give my permission for the teaching materials I have submitted to be reproduced:

_____ (Signature)