

Teach Engineering Champions Program

What is a Teach Engineering Champion (Champion)

A Teach Engineering Champion is a K-12 formal or informal educator who demonstrates a strong commitment to advancing engineering education. They are passionate about fostering innovation, problem-solving, and critical thinking in all students through the teaching of engineering concepts, skills, and practices.

Champions serve as leaders and advocates for engineering education, inspiring their peers, students, and communities to embrace the importance of engineering in preparing future generations for the challenges of the 21st century. Teach Engineering resources can be used by educators to help prepare our students for successful futures in the workforce.

Key Attributes of a Teach Engineering Champion:

- **Passion for Engineering Education:** Demonstrates enthusiasm for teaching engineering concepts to K-12 students and actively integrates engineering principles into their curriculum.
- **Commitment to Student Empowerment:** Provides students with opportunities to engage in hands-on, real-world engineering experiences that build problem-solving and collaboration skills.
- **Leadership and Advocacy:** Actively promotes and supports the expansion of engineering education in their school, district, after school program or other educational space within the broader community, advocating for the importance of STEM education.
- **Mentorship:** Acts as a mentor or resource for fellow formal or informal educators, including individuals in advising roles, and helps them to adopt engineering teaching practices and improve their own curriculum.
- **Continuous Learning and Growth:** Seeks out opportunities to lead professional development sessions in their area and strives to stay current with best practices in engineering education. Uses TeachEngineering.org materials and curriculum, or otherwise indicates a mastery or fluency with Teach Engineering materials.

The Teach Engineering Champion Commitment and Obligation:

New cohorts of **Teach Engineering Champions** will be selected annually and will convene at the Teach Engineering Champions Institute (TECI).

With the assistance and support of the Teach Engineering team, the Champions will provide guidance, resources, programming and support to other formal and informal K-12 engineering educators in their region.

Upon completion of TECI, a Champion will have the opportunity to become a contracted consultant, with the ability to earn a stipend provided they:

- **Facilitate at least 1 professional development (PD) session** within 12 months after the completion of the program. The PD session will focus on the application of engineering education practices and resources in the K-12 classroom.
- **Participate in TE quarterly champion webinars** which will assist in the successful implementation of these workshops.
- **Contribute to your educational community** by disseminating the insights and strategies gained through your participation in this program.

This commitment is crucial to ensuring that the impact of the program extends beyond the individual teacher and influences the broader educational ecosystem.

What is the Teach Engineering Champions Institute (TECI)?

The **Teach Engineering Champions Institute** is an annual, professional development workshop designed to train formal and informal K-12 educators in engineering pedagogy, design and mindset. Training will continue throughout the year with quarterly virtual training sessions. Curriculum and course work will be based on the Teach Engineering free digital library.

The initial training will be held in August 2025, and will be held either in-person or virtually. This determination will be made by the beginning of June to give participants enough time to plan in advance.

This exclusive workshop offers participants advanced training, resources, and networking opportunities to deepen their understanding of engineering education and enhance their ability to lead the integration of engineering principles in K-12 classrooms. By attending the workshop, Teach Engineering Champions will further develop their capacity to inspire and lead both students and fellow educators in embracing the power of engineering.

Teach Engineering Champions Institute (TECI) Logistics

The TECI will take place on **Aug 4-6, 2025**. Any formal or informal educator, counselor, administrator, mentor, or other influencer who provides educational opportunities and supports the engineering-related passions of K-12 students is welcome to apply. To be eligible to apply, applicants must:

- Be 18 years or older by the application date
- Be a U.S. Citizen, or permanent resident (meets the [requirements of the green card test](#))
- Have a US tax ID or Social Security Number
- Is not a current employee of the University of Colorado

Selected participants will bring a variety of perspectives, experiences, and regional insights from across the US, reflecting different backgrounds and communities. Applications will be evaluated by a scoring rubric.

To the extent required by law, the University of Colorado will report the value of any consultant stipends to the IRS on Form 1099. Taxes, where applicable, are the responsibility of the stipend recipient. Participants of the Engineering Champion Institute will be required to submit additional paperwork, including tax ID information.

Important Dates

March 3, 2025: On-line applications for the Teach Engineering Champion Institute opens

April 30, 2025: Applications close

May 5 - May 10: Interviews of candidates (if needed)

May 15, 2025: Teach Engineering Champions and alternates will be selected and notified

June 1, 2025: Participants will be informed on if TECI will be in-person or virtual

June 15, 2025: Paperwork must be submitted to Teach Engineering to confirm participation

June 25, 2025: Alternates will be notified if space is available

Aug 4, 2025: 1st TECI cohort convenes

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