

Administrative Memo

Date: June 21, 2019
To: School Administrators
From: Blaine Henningsen, assistant commissioner, Office of College and Career Readiness
Subject: CCR-19-006 – Online STEM Awareness-Learning Blade™ Training

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has contracted with Learning Blade™ to offer middle school students more opportunities for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) career awareness training.

Learning Blade™ is a supplemental, STEM toolbox of interactive online lessons, ready-to-use lesson plans and classroom activities designed to expose primarily 6th-8th grade students to STEM-related career opportunities and help them develop key skills as they move forward. This approach to STEM education focuses on activities that can be utilized both in a self-paced game environment and as practice in academic classrooms.

The system is built on the concept of missions. Each mission highlights a people-centered problem that engages today's students, and shows how STEM careers and technologies solve these problems. There are online lessons, projects and activities designed to grab students' attention while introducing them to the careers, tools and technologies found throughout STEM fields. It also has parent activities in order to stimulate discussion of careers at home.

Training is available to educators with the goal of having them feel confident in using Learning Blade™ at the end of the two-to-three hour session. Once your registration has been processed, Learning Blade™ will send you additional information regarding the optional training.

To create your account, please visit www.LearningBlade.com/MO. You must use your school email address in order to obtain a license for your school. Only one person from your school has to sign up to receive the school login information. Each individual school (not district) can receive a 3D printer if they complete 5000 online lessons in a single school year. One printer per school, per lifetime.

If you have specific questions regarding Learning Blade™ contact Lori Brewer at 573-751-8665 or by email at Lori.Brewer@dese.mo.gov.