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**Delta State University extends "STEM in a Box" professional development opportunity for K-12 teachers**

**CLEVELAND, Miss. —** Delta State University’s Collaborative for Rural STEM Education (CRSE) is excited to announce an extended opportunity for K-12 STEM teachers in the Mississippi Delta to apply for the “STEM in a Box” professional development program. Fully funded by the U.S. Department of Education, this initiative provides free professional development and classroom resource kits tailored to participants’ specific disciplines and student age ranges.

The summer training, held on the DSU campus from June 9-12, 2025, offers 2.4 CEU credits, participation stipends, and lodging accommodations if necessary. Space is limited, and the deadline to apply is February 25.

Teachers who join the program will gain access to high-quality instructional materials and hands-on training to enhance STEM learning in their classrooms. Participants will also receive ongoing support, including three classroom visits from a CRSE team member throughout the academic year.

Jessica Hardy, Project Director of CRSE, emphasized the impact of the program:  
"This professional development puts materials in the hands of classroom teachers to help them create interactive, real-world learning experiences for their students. Participants will also benefit from the support and expertise of a dedicated faculty team as they implement new resources and training in the classroom."

Program Requirements:

* Attend summer training at DSU: June 9-12, 2025 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, lunch provided)
* Participate in one session at DSU during the academic year (Dates TBD)
* Attend a four-day summer session in 2026 to share experiences in a professional learning community format
* Engage in three classroom visits from a CRSE team member throughout the academic year

Educators who have participated in past CRSE professional development sessions praise the program for its hands-on approach and classroom impact:  
"This has been the best workshop I have been to in 17 years of teaching—not only because they gave us so much, but because they taught us to use it." – Miranda Hawkins

"STEM is often overlooked, and this program has given us everything we need to help our students master the things they need to learn." – Watasha Gallion

"As an educator with nearly 30 years of experience, I can truly say that the Collaborative for Rural STEM Education workshop is one of the most phenomenal professional developments that I have ever attended." – Melanie Hardy

For more information or to apply, contact:

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Visit <https://www.deltastate.edu/nursing-health-sciences/collaborative-rural-stem-education/> for full details.

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**About Delta State University:**Delta State University is a four-year public institution whose nearly 2,700 students come from most U.S. states and more than 45 countries. Acknowledging its beginning as a teacher’s college, the University sustains excellence in teacher education while continuing to expand offerings in traditional as well as unique fields of study. Programs such as those available through the Delta Music Institute, the Commercial Aviation Department, and the Center for Interdisciplinary Geospatial Information highlight the University’s commitment to meeting the evolving needs of the students it serves with world-leading, industry-acclaimed programs. Situated in the heart of the Mississippi Delta, Delta State offers top-notch academic programs in business, arts, sciences, nursing, education, and more. DSU Athletics has won 14 national championships, 70 conference championships, and 37 regional titles.