

AAUW NC STEM Chair

The science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) chair serves on an AAUW NC board. The purpose of the role is to champion women's representation in STEM by creating and communicating about STEM programs across North Carolina and AAUW national.

Alignment(s) with AAUW Key Issues (Education, Workplace & Economic Equity, Leadership), if applicable. **Highlighting indicates primary focus topics.**

Education

- [Gender Bias in Schools](#)
- [The STEM Gap](#)
- [Higher Education & Other Career Pathways](#)

Workplace & Economic Equity

- [The Gender Pay Gap](#)
- [The Gendered Workforce](#)
- [The Future of Work](#)

Leadership

- [Barriers & Bias](#)
- [Global Connections](#)

Specific Responsibilities of this State Appointed Role/Position

Responsibilities to Your State

The AAUW NC STEM chair creates activities and distributes communications about the national and state STEM education priorities/key issues. The focus of these communications and activities is the encouragement of women and girls to pursue STEM educational opportunities and STEM career fields.

Regular monthly reports to the board include new STEM activities for girls around North Carolina that are being conducted in the state that branches have reported to the STEM chair. Consultations on STEM support requested from the STEM chair should also be included in the monthly reports. Communications on events to occur at or after the current meeting should be included in the monthly reports.

State-led activities, such as the branch STEM chair meetings will be listed on the AAUW NC website as a registration link if they occur in the future and as a short news item if they occur in the past. Depending on the Connect newsletter timeline, these items will also be included in the newsletter. The chair will post registration links to branch-led items and state-led items on the AAUW NC Facebook page.

Responsibilities to Branches in Your State

Featured branch opportunities are communicated to branch STEM chairs, and other leaders if no STEM chair exists for a branch, two to three times per year. These should be statewide or large regional STEM activities in North Carolina for K-12 students. The communication should be a virtual encounter to ensure as many STEM chairs as possible can attend. The news article for the website should include the links to the resources shared for future reference by other STEM chairs and interested people.

The AAUW NC STEM chair should be available to connect with people interested in promoting STEM activities, particularly K-12 STEM activities, in North Carolina. This person should also be available to speak at events and branch meetings as requested on topics related to AAUW national, state, or regional STEM activities or be able to connect branch leaders to knowledgeable individuals in organizations related to these STEM activities.

Responsibilities to AAUW

National STEM programming currently includes STEMEd for Girls (<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/stemed-for-girls/>). As this is a recently piloted virtual program, current responsibilities include announcing and pushing the registration for this program in the spring as soon as dates are announced.

Facilitation of branch applications for Community Action Grants (<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/current-opportunities/community-action/>) to support state and branch-led STEM education activities for girls in the physical sciences and engineering.

Resources for STEM Chairs

- **AAUW Branch STEM Chair Position Description:** <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/volunteer-leader-position-descriptions/>. Read under Branch/Branch STEM Chair.
- **AAUW STEMpacks:** curriculum in aerospace and cybersecurity: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/stempacks/>
- **AAUW Tech Trek:** <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/tech-trek/>
- **National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT):** <https://NCWIT.org> and **NCWIT Aspirations in Computing (AIT):** <https://www.aspirations.org/>
- **N.C. Science, Mathematics, Technology (SMT) Center:** <https://www.ncsmt.org/> and **NCSMT STEM Website** (still under development): <https://www.ncsmt.org/programs/nc-stem-learning-network/nc-stem-center-website/>

North Carolina Center for Afterschool Programs STEM Lessons:

<https://ncafterschool.org/stem-lessons/>

- **TechGirlz:** <https://TechGirlz.org>

Leadership Skills Helpful to the Position

- Connections to STEM education groups in North Carolina
- Presentation skills for leading others in short effective meetings

Time Commitment – 8 hours per month; 2 hours for each monthly meeting; 6 hours of work to support and communicate activities

Resources Used to Support Role/Function

- AAUW Resources
- Non-AAUW Resources
- National Center of Women in IT (NCWIT)
- TechGirlz.org for lesson plans and workshops
- NC Science Leadership Association <http://ncsla.net/>
- NC Science Teachers Association <https://www.ncsta.org/>
- The NC STEM Center (<https://www.ncstemcenter.org/learn/stem-in-north-carolina/>)
- NASA STEM Engagement (<https://www.nasa.gov/education/materials/>)