



Community for Advancing Discovery Research in Education

CADRE Postdoc Professional Growth Opportunity Application Guidelines

Personal Statement Guidelines

Each applicant must submit a personal statement. This is your opportunity to help reviewers better understand your academic and career trajectory, research interests, your potential to contribute to the field of STEM education research, and how you may benefit from this opportunity.

In your personal statement, please address the following:

- Your career pathway that led you to your current position, and your short- and long-term professional goals;
- Your research interests, their connection to your academic and professional goals, and their importance to the field of STEM education research (may include overarching issue(s), theoretical framework(s), methodologies, and research question(s) that guide your work);
- How your research interests and professional goals contribute to broadening participation in PreK-12 STEM education and the field of STEM education research;
- Your commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, including how your background, research interests, and/or professional goals contribute to broadening participation in PreK-12 STEM education and in the field of STEM education research; and
- Your reasons for applying, what you hope to get out of the opportunity, how this opportunity can support your professional goals, and any unique contributions you can make to the group based on your experience/background. Be sure to address how the CADRE Postdoc Professional Growth Opportunity fills a gap in the professional development opportunities you have had to date.

The statement should be 2-3 pages in length. Single spaced. Please use 12pt Times New Roman font for ease of reading, and include your name at the top of each page. Word or PDF format preferred.

Letter of Recommendation Guidelines

The letter of recommendation must come from the PI or Co-PI of an active DRK-12 project and speak to the quality of the applicant's work and their potential in the field of STEM education research.

In your letter of recommendation, please address the following:

- How long you have known the applicant and in what context;
- Evidence of leadership and academic and professional past success and future potential, including examples of the applicant's work that are particularly noteworthy;
- The applicant's desire and capacity to advance the field of STEM education research;
- The applicant's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and their capacity to contribute to broadening participation in PreK-12 STEM education and in the field of STEM education research; and
- How the applicant could benefit from AND contribute to the CADRE Postdoc Professional Growth Opportunity, including how the program fills an opportunity gap in the applicant's professional development.

The letter should be 1-2 pages in length. Single spaced. Please use 12pt Times New Roman font for ease of reading. Word or PDF format preferred.