



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**MOLLY M. SPEARMAN**  
*STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Superintendents  
Middle and High School Principals

**FROM:** Molly M. Spearman  
State Superintendent of Education

**DATE:** April 9, 2015

**RE:** Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

The deadline for seventh- through twelfth-grade teachers to submit applications for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) is May 1, 2015. PAEMST is the highest honor for a math or science (including computer science) teacher in the United States, and over 4,300 outstanding educators have been recognized since the program's inception in 1983.

To assist with the application process, interested teachers can review online webinars featuring former PAEMST awardees providing a unique perspective of their experiences with the program. Simply click this [link](#) and type in "PAEMST" in the search box.

Becoming a PAEMST awardee can be a truly life-changing experience for your educators. PAEMST awardees will be invited to Washington, D.C., for a series of events as a tribute to their accomplishments. Awardees will also receive a certificate signed by the President and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation. With so many great teachers throughout our state, we know there are qualified applicants for this prestigious award. We hope you will encourage your teachers to submit applications for the 2014–15 application cycle by May 1. Should you or any of your teachers have questions about the program or the application process, please contact state coordinators:

Dr. Deanna S. Taylor, Science State Coordinator, [dstaylor@ed.sc.gov](mailto:dstaylor@ed.sc.gov), (803) 734-8537  
Ms. Janel Johnson, Mathematics State Coordinator, [jejohnson@ed.sc.gov](mailto:jejohnson@ed.sc.gov), (803) 734-7814

You may also contact the PAEMST Help Center at [info@paemst.org](mailto:info@paemst.org), or 1-855-723-6780 (PAEMST-0).