

STA STEM AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Statement of Expectations 2026-27

BACKGROUND

Science & Technology Australia invests considerable resources in training for our highly-regarded STEM Ambassador program. Ambassadors must be a member of an STA member organisation. It is essential you understand what is expected of you as a STEM Ambassador, and know what you can expect from STA. Your agreement to abide by this statement of expectations is a condition of participation in the program.

YOUR ROLE AS A STEM AMBASSADOR:

- Attend 5 training sessions (totalling no more than 15 hours over twelve months)
- Organise and attend at least 2 meetings with your Parliamentarian (15-20 mins each)
- Read and discuss briefings on national STEM related matters with your Parliamentarian
- Attend catch-ups with other STEM Ambassadors to share insights and ideas
- Provide updates and feedback to STA on your engagement with the MP/Senator
- Do additional research to cover topics your Parliamentarian wishes to discuss
- Participate in program evaluation as requested by STA

WHAT STA WILL PROVIDE:

- Background information on your Parliamentarian
- Professional development training by experts in policy, communications, and advocacy
- Briefings on STEM sector policy issues
- A contact in your Parliamentarian's office to set up your first meeting with them
- Discounted attendance to Science meets Parliament

WHAT WILL YOU (OR YOUR EMPLOYER) WILL NEED TO COVER:

- Travel costs for your meetings
- Travel, accommodation and discounted registration to attend Science meets Parliament in Canberra

In instances of unexpected hardship, STA will endeavour to support participants in whatever ways we can. However, in applying for this program you agree to take part in all activities, and effectively and positively represent your field and your sector to the best of your ability.

The STA STEM Ambassador program is not designed to provide a platform for your personal political views. Its aim is to encourage deeper uptake of science and evidence in policy making across the breadth of the political spectrum, in a non-partisan and positive manner. As an Ambassador, you are not an STA spokesperson, but rather a skilled STEM professional forging a positive professional relationship with a Parliamentarian to deepen their engagement with the STEM sector, and their understanding of the STEM capabilities the nation has and needs.

STA is excited to have brilliant STEM professionals as participants in this program, and we look forward to working with our STEM Ambassadors to advance the role, reputation and impact of science and technology in Australia.