

## Criteria for Attaining the MAS STEM Communicator Award

Students seeking the MAS STEM Communicator award must meet the six assessment elements. The criteria emphasize communications regarding the dimensions of STEM pursuit and fundamental skills that contribute to the development of an individual's or team's expertise in the area of focus.

Criteria	Assessment Elements	Assessment Action	Evaluators
A.	<b>Has a substantive base of knowledge in field</b>	Submit a <b>certified school transcript</b> demonstrating a substantive knowledge base in at three years biology, chemistry, and physics. Three years of math for math/engineering applicants.	<b>Teacher or School</b> Submit an official transcript. If transcript is not available, submit alternative evidence demonstrating this knowledge base.
B. 25 pts.	<b>Shows communication skill in essay responses</b>	<b>Submit responses to four essays</b> (one page each, double spaced) Each team member must each submit his/her own essays.)	Panel of three-reviewers (professional in chosen field, citizen-scientist, and writer.)
1. 25 pts.	<b>Effectively summarizes project in an abstract</b>	Submit an abstract that clearly summarizes the project. (250-word limit)	Panel of three-reviewers (professional in chosen field, citizen-scientist, and writer.)
2. 25 pts.	<b>Effectively pursues scientific thought and reasoning</b>	Submit a written paper that rigorously applies scientific inquiry and logical reasoning in a sophisticated manner to answer a specific question(s) and test a well-defined hypothesis (ese), or solve a problem in a STEM area. (20-page limit)	Panel of three-reviewers (professional in chosen field, citizen-scientist, and writer.)
3. 15 pts.	<b>Shows skill in communicating the research problem(s) and conclusions</b>	Ensure that the research design, procedures (materials/methods), results, and conclusion are thoroughly presented and well written.—	Panel of three-reviewers (professional in chosen field, citizen-scientist, and writer.)

<b>4.</b> <b>10 pts.</b>	<b>Acknowledges sources and major assistance received</b>	Include a literature cited section as well other references used to support the work and an acknowledgements section that acknowledges major assistance.	Panel of three-reviewers (professional in chosen field, citizen-scientist, and writer.)
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*100 pts. total*

