

# Science Teachers in Southwest Michigan, you are invited to join a National Science Foundation-funded summer research experience in Biological Sciences at Western Michigan University

**Program Dates:** June 15 - July 31, 2026      **Participant Support:** \$7,840 stipend

**Application Deadline:** April 3, 2026

## Eligibility:

1. be a citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States
2. be able to work ~40 hours per week for the 7-week term
3. teach or have taught at least one science class at a middle or high school in Southwest Michigan



## Program Description

- The center piece of the program is a paid 7-week summer experience for 8 teachers from June 15 to July 31, in the laboratories of WMU faculty mentors.
- These research projects revolve around a unifying theme: how plants, animals, and microorganisms interact with other organisms and their environments.
- The summer research experience will be complemented with faculty research seminars, professional development workshops, demonstrations of hands-on laboratory teaching modules, lunch-time discussions, poster presentations, and a fall semester classroom visit.

## Application Information

- Please e-mail the following application materials to [bios-rets@wmich.edu](mailto:bios-rets@wmich.edu)
  - A brief resume;
  - A one-page personal statement;
  - A filled Teacher Participant Application Form.
- Please have a letter of recommendation from your principal sent directly to [bios-rets@wmich.edu](mailto:bios-rets@wmich.edu).

Please visit <https://wmich.edu/biology/biorets> for more information and downloading the application form.



For assistance, contact the program director Dr. Yan Lu ([yan.1.lu@wmich.edu](mailto:yan.1.lu@wmich.edu)) or co-director Dr. John Spitsbergen ([john.spitsbergen@wmich.edu](mailto:john.spitsbergen@wmich.edu)).

