



# NJSTA Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award 2021 Summer Institute OpenSciEd

**Get your students excited about science!**

OpenSciEd is a free and open curriculum resource that brings science to life with phenomenon-based storylines, hands-on science investigations and engineering design projects aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and three-dimensional science teaching and learning that is described in The Framework for K-12 Science Education. Based on research regarding how students learn, what motivates learning, and the implications for teaching, the instructional materials were developed and designed to be used with low-cost, standard laboratory equipment. Over time, the exemplary instructional materials have been improved based on feedback from teachers and field testing.

New Jersey is one of ten states to have piloted @OpenSciEd curricula for middle school students. This summer, the NJSTA Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award (MPSMA) Committee is excited to sponsor this professional development opportunity. Through this workshop, Scholars will deepen their understanding of best practices and equitable strategies in science instruction, experience an OpenSciEd unit from the student perspective and collaborate with other NJ educators.

This introductory professional development will focus on the OpenSciEd instructional model and a choice of one of three grade-specific units:

- 6.1 Light and Matter
- 7.1 Chemical Reactions
- 8.1 Contact Forces



For more information about the OpenSciEd instructional model and resources, please click on the logo to the left.

**Audience:** Teachers and Leaders of Middle School Science (Grades 6-8)

**Dates/Times:** This **five-day** Institute will take place **June 28–July 2, 2021** from **9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.** daily. *Scholars who are accepted must commit to attend each full day of the program.*

**Location: Virtual**  
(Zoom links will be sent close to date.)

**Facilitators:** New Jersey OpenSciEd Facilitators and OpenSciEd Pilot Teachers

**Sponsor:** The Institute is supported by the NJSTA Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award (MPSMA) Endowment. It covers all Institute costs for participants who attend the full 5-day Institute. Participants, known as MPSMA Scholars, will also receive upon completion of the 5-day Institute:

1. One-year NJSTA membership;
2. One-year online access to NJSTA monthly newsletter and resources
3. One-day admission to the October 2021 New Jersey Science Convention
4. Certificate for 20 Professional Development hours

Successful applicants will be notified by May 1, 2021. After May 1, any additional remaining spaces will be filled on a rolling basis and/or a waitlist will be used.

Online applications are available on the NJSTA website:

<https://njsta.org/2021-Simmons-Institute>

For further information about this 2021 MPS Memorial Award Summer Institute, please contact Cheryl Zanone [njstasimmons@gmail.com](mailto:njstasimmons@gmail.com).