



2011 Teacher Quest Tampa Bay Pilot Program

In October of 2008, the Helios Education Foundation made an investment in Florida's Technological Research and Development Foundation to manage the Teacher Quest Tampa Bay Pilot Program for secondary teachers working in the Tampa Bay Area. Each summer, teachers enter paid positions at select science and technology-based businesses gaining real-life experience and bringing a fresh, relevant, forward-thinking perspective to their students. The result is energized teachers and motivated students who are better equipped for continuing their education and working in careers related to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

How do businesses and teachers benefit from the program?

Businesses gain:

- ⇒ A cost-effective turn-key way to bring a skilled temporary employee to the workplace
 - Total cost to the business is \$2,475 – 50% of the teacher compensation rate
 - TRDA hires applicants and handles all administrative costs and payroll responsibilities
- ⇒ A professional who brings a new perspective and unique set of skills to the workplace
- ⇒ An opportunity to define skills relevant to current and future workforce needs
- ⇒ The chance to make a valuable contribution to education
- ⇒ A leadership opportunity for the teacher's supervisor

Teachers gain:

- ⇒ Innovative ways to spark student interest in math, science, and technology
- ⇒ Hands-on, practical experience in key Tampa Bay Area industries
- ⇒ Broadened understanding of skill requirements needed in today's workplace
- ⇒ Current knowledge of local career opportunities
- ⇒ An opportunity to raise awareness among businesses of current developments in education
- ⇒ A pay supplement for working full time for 6 weeks
- ⇒ Eligibility to receive in-service credit and compete for mini-grants

For more information contact Diane Matthews at 866.263.9564 x106 or dmatthews@trda.org