

The National Girls Collaborative Project

1) What is the National Girls Collaborative Project?

The National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP) strengthens the capacity, impact, and sustainability of existing girl-serving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs. The goal of the project is to facilitate collaboration among organizations, institutions, and businesses committed to expanding participation of women in STEM. Regional collaborative teams across the U.S. bring together organizations to compare needs and resources, share information, and strategically plan to expand STEM-related opportunities for girls and women.

2) Who is involved in the project?

The NGCP is a partnership between the Puget Sound Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology (PSCTLT), Assessing Women in Engineering (AWE), the Educational Development Center (EDC), and AAUW. The Puget Sound Center created the original model upon which each regional collaborative is based, while AAUW is providing expertise as one of the nation's leading voices promoting education and equality for women. Through the project, girl-serving STEM programs also have access to research-based strategies on assessment and informal learning provided by AWE and EDC, respectively.

3) How does it work?

Organizations interested in increasing the number of women in STEM sign up with the NGCP @ <http://www.ngcproject.org/directory/>. Once registered, organizations are able to connect to girl-serving STEM programs and other interested parties through the program directory, conferences, forums, and listservs. Organizations are encouraged to work together and to apply for \$1000 mini-grants awarded to well-designed, creative, and innovative partnerships supporting STEM programs for girls.

4) What is AAUW's role in this project?

In addition to providing expertise and outreach for the project at the national level, AAUW members across the country are acting as liaisons to NGCP collaboratives in their areas. AAUW liaisons help people make connections – to one another, to resources on gender equity and to AAUW – as part of their local collaborative leadership team of organizations and individuals working to increase the number of girls in STEM. Liaisons have the opportunity to work with leading experts in the field of gender equity, to make a real contribution to the project, and to make a difference in the lives of girls and women.

5) Who is funding this project?



The National Science Foundation Division of Research on Gender in Science and Engineering is funding the NGCP partnership between AAUW, PSCTLT, AWE, and EDC.

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6) What can AAUW members do to take part in the NGCP?

Below are just a few of the many ways AAUW members may become involved with the NGCP. For more ideas, please visit the AAUW website @ <http://www.aauw.org/education/ngcp/>

- Attend events hosted by your regional collaborative.
- Register your branch in the Program Directory.
- Partner with another organization on a joint event for girls and apply for a mini-grant to help fund your venture.
- Invite a regional liaison to speak at your branch.
- Download an AAUW Program in a Box about STEM.
- Identify organizations promoting girls in STEM and tell them about the NGCP.
- Encourage girl-serving STEM programs to apply for mini-grants through their local collaborative.

7) Is there a collaborative in my area?

As of March 2009, regional collaboratives have formed in the following areas:

New England: CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT	Connecticut Girls Collaborative Project Maine Girls Collaborative Project Northeastern Girls Collaborative Project
Middle Atlantic: DC, DE, MD, NJ, NY, PA	Mid-Atlantic Girls Collaborative PA STEM Girls Collaborative Project
South: AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, PR, SC, TN, VA, WV	Florida Girls Collaborative Project Kentucky Girls STEM Collaborative Project The Science House Girls Collaborative Project GRITS Collaborative Project
Midwest: IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI	Great Lakes Girls Collaborative Project Midwest Girls Collaborative Project
Southwest: AZ, NM, OK, TX	Texas Girls Collaborative Project
West: AK, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY	California Girls Collaborative Project Northwest Girls Collaborative Project

8) Who is my local contact?

For a list of current AAUW NGCP Liaisons and the regions they serve, please see <http://www.aauw.org/education/ngcp/> or contact AAUW's Helpline at 1-800-326-2289.