

STEM BEST Review & Selection Process

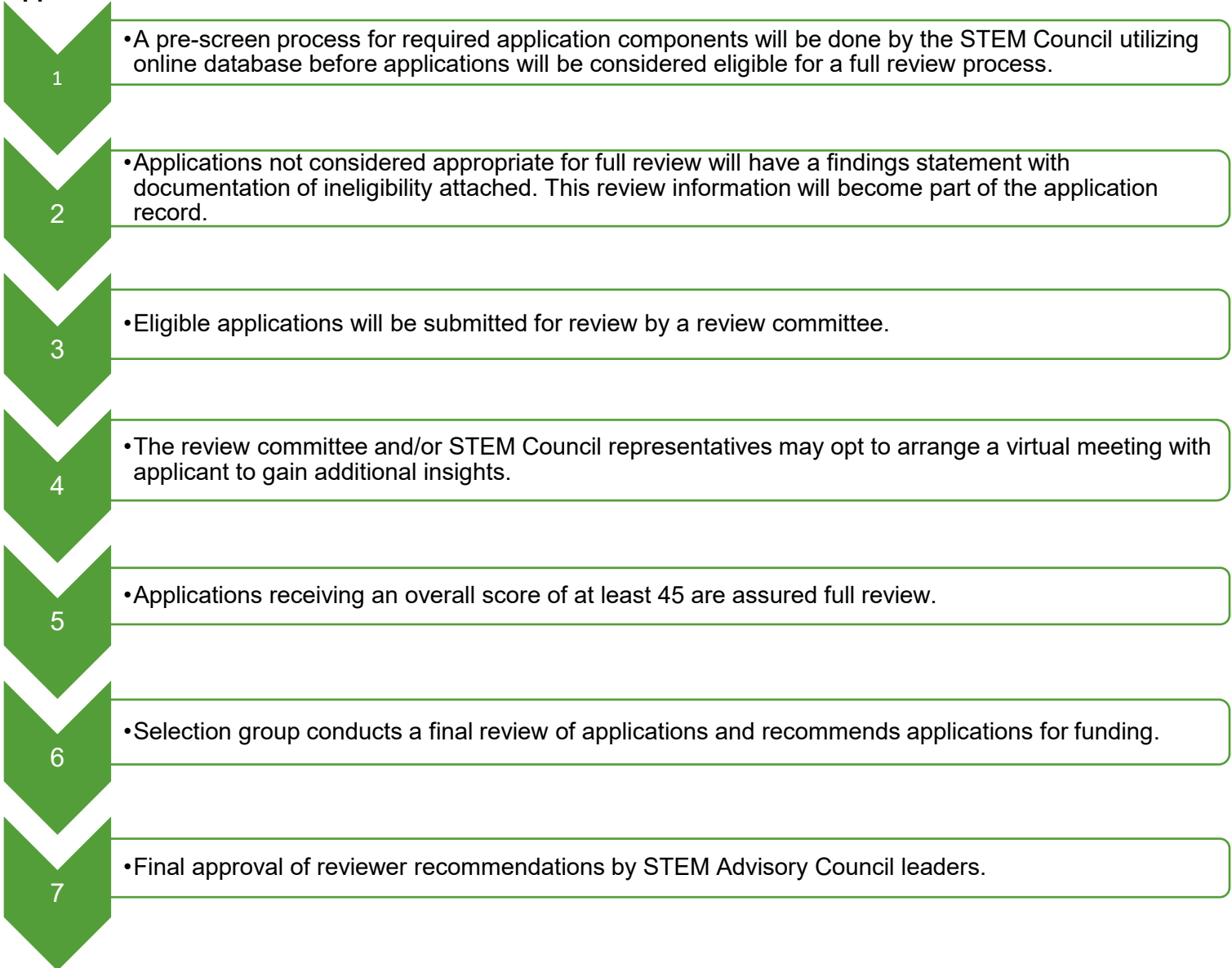
Mission:

To prepare the students of Iowa for future success through the development or expansion of programs that foster opportunities of growth in high-demand skill sets by providing students real world, hands on opportunities created by business and education partnerships.

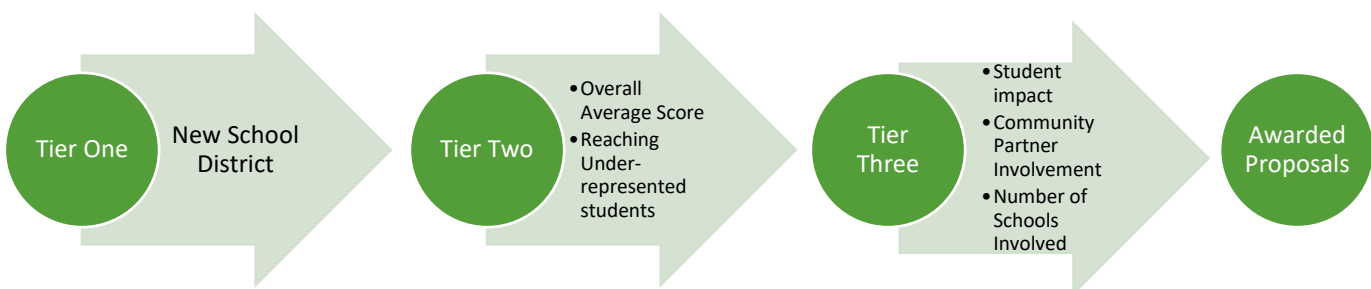
Goals:

1. Expanding the reach of STEM BEST.
2. Optimizing impact of the STEM BEST awards.

Application Review Process



The following priorities are utilized for selection with the funding that is available:



Evaluator Training:

The volunteer evaluators for the STEM BEST® Program proposal review process will be selected in advance of the application closing date in order that they may participate in an orientation process that not only defines the purposes and goals of the applications but also outlines the steps in the review process which are designed to bring about a consistent and equitable review for all applicant groups. The orientation intends to increase understanding of the overall goals of the STEM BEST® Program and also bring scoring processes into a similar process across all teams.

There will be instructions during the orientation to address concerns of:

- Application disqualification
- Interrater reliability
- Scoring irregularities
- In-depth clarification of previous awardees requirements

To assist the evaluators with their review process, it is the intention that a pre-evaluation certification will be completed by STEM Council Network Team members. This should make the greatest use of reviewers time in moving forward only with qualified applications. However, in the event an application has an issue discovered which may question the appropriateness or eligibility of moving forward, the reviewers should immediately contact the STEM Council Operations Center for further guidance.