



*Application 2019*  
**VERMONT MATHEMATICS INITIATIVE  
MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM**

Please type or print clearly in ink. Type and attach responses to essay questions. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2019. Please send your completed application to:

**Vermont Mathematics Initiative, Inc.  
416 Washburn Rd  
East Burke, VT 05832**

Or transmit electronically to the VMI at [jlaird@burkevt.net](mailto:jlaird@burkevt.net).

*A complete application includes:*

- Part I: Applicant information cover sheet and current resume
- Part II: Applicant's responses to the essay questions
- Part III: (a) Three letters of recommendation, including at least one each from a colleague and an administrator
- Part IV: Applicant signature
- Part V: (a) Principal's responses to questions 1-3  
(b) Signature sheet, signed by the principal and Superintendent

*Only fully completed applications will be considered.*

**If you have any questions or need more information, please contact:**

**Judi Laird, VMI Director**  
[jlaird@burkevt.net](mailto:jlaird@burkevt.net)  
**802.626.8467**

**Vermont Mathematics Initiative Application Form  
Part I: Applicant Information Cover Sheet**

*Please print in ink or type.*

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

School name \_\_\_\_\_

School phone \_\_\_\_\_

School address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current grade level/position \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years teaching in current school \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of years teaching \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate & Graduate Degrees \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Educator License Endorsements \_\_\_\_\_

Home mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please attach a current resume to this application packet.\*\***

## Vermont Mathematics Initiative Application Form Part II: Essay Questions

*Please type and attach your responses to this application.  
(Suggested length: For questions 1-5, a total of approximately 3 typed pages.)*

### 1. Meeting the Needs of All Students

*Helping all children succeed in mathematics is a challenge faced by all educators. Please describe your commitment to helping all students succeed and your goals for enhancing your effectiveness in this area.*

### 2. Teacher Leadership

*Serving as a mathematics teacher leader is an important aspect of your participation in VMI. Please describe the key challenges in mathematics teaching and learning faced by your school and the ways in which your enrollment in VMI might help address those challenges.*

### 3. Mathematics Content Knowledge

*The VMI curriculum includes rich and challenging mathematics content which is intended to extend your understanding whether you are currently at a novice or more advanced level. Please describe your interest in expanding your mathematical content knowledge.*

### 4. Critical Reflection

*Throughout your VMI enrollment, you will be asked to critically reflect upon your teaching practices and continue to strive for excellence. Please describe your interest in utilizing an inquiry approach in your classroom practice and your openness to working collaboratively with others to improve your instruction.*

### 5. Action Research

*In the final year of the program, you will undertake an action research project on an appropriate topic of your choice. Describe the role that research plays or can play in your work with students. List particular mathematics research topics of interest to you.*

### 6. Teaching Experience, Leadership and Mathematics Professional Development

*\*\*skip this section if this information is included in your resume\*\**

Please list:

- Your teaching experience (locations, roles, levels, and lengths of time).
- Any teacher-leadership experience (serving on or leading committees, facilitating meetings/discussion groups, writing curriculum, etc.).
- Your professional development experience (as participant and/or presenter) in mathematics content and instruction (graduate courses, VCTM involvement, workshops, conferences, other). Please indicate those events in which you served as a facilitator or presenter.

# Vermont Mathematics Initiative Application Form

## Part III: Recommendations

### Recommendations

Please include three letters of recommendation to support your participation in this project, including at least one each from a colleague and an administrator.

Recommendations should address your:

- Ability to take on challenges and to grow professionally.
- Dedication to addressing the needs of all students.
- Leadership experiences or qualities, including your commitment to working with other teachers/school personnel to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics in your school.

## Part IV: Applicant Signature

### Applicant Agreement

*I understand that I am making a three-year commitment, that one aspect of my involvement is to play a leadership role in mathematics in my school or district, and that I will engage in classroom-based observation and feedback sessions with my VMI mentor.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Applicant*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*



**Vermont Mathematics Initiative Application Form**  
**Part V: Principal's letter and signature sheet**  
**To be completed by the school principal**

Name of Teacher Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator's Name and Position \_\_\_\_\_

---

Please attach responses to this cover sheet. *Please note that the responses to these prompts can be included in the letter of recommendation.*

- 1. Teaching and Learning:** Please detail how the applicant's participation in this professional development program will support the improvement of student performance in mathematics at your school.
- 2. Teacher Leadership:** *VMI participants enter the program with greatly varying levels of leadership experience.* Please describe the ways in which their development as a teacher leader will support the school community goals.
- 3. Administrative Support:** *We have found that consistent administrative support enhances one's success in the VMI program.* How will you support this applicant throughout their VMI career?

*I have read the Vermont Mathematics Initiative application packet and discussed this application with the district Superintendent. I understand that active support of the VMI participant by the principal or other designated school leader is expected.*

*I understand that our district will be expected to provide release time for the participating teacher to attend VMI sessions, and pay for at least a portion of the 12 graduate credits a participating teacher will receive each year. I have read the portions of this application packet pertaining to cost and administrator support and am committed to assisting the participating teacher find the necessary funds to cover the cost.*

**Note:** The overall goal of the VMI is to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics in the VMI teacher's school/ district. The VMI teacher and the school/ district leadership will work together to help achieve that goal. For that reason, *we encourage the school and district to work creatively with the VMI applicant to increase the school or district share of tuition and correspondingly reduce the teacher's share. A number of strategies have been suggested for doing so, which are listed under the headings "What is the cost?" and "Financial assistance" on the enclosed sheet entitled "Professional Development in Mathematics for K-8 Educators."*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date