

A Note from Ron Furstenau:

I had mentioned to teachers at the USAFA PALS chemistry workshop in January about the possibility of the Mikkelson Foundation sponsoring grants for the purchase of a Spectronic 200 visible spectrometers for schools. Those grants are now a reality! The Mikkelson Foundation has agreed to provide funds for four (4) spectrometers, plus the training workshop at USAFA (see details below).

Can you please send out the information below (the same information is also attached as a Word document) to the teachers on your mailing list? It would be much appreciated! The deadline for application (sent to me) is 1 May 2019, with selection/notification by 15 May 2019.

Thanks!

Sincerely,
Ron Furstenau

Pikes Peak Region Science teachers!

Here's your chance to own a Thermo Scientific SPECTRONIC 200 visible spectrophotometer for your classroom! These spectrometers are durable, easy to use, and great for quantitative and qualitative analysis. (They are much improved over the older Spectronic 20 model, which has been a workhorse in the lab for decades.)

Through a grant from the Mikkelson Foundation, four (4) schools will be selected to receive a spectrometer and would be required to send one teacher and one or two students (teachers' choice) to a day-long workshop at the Department of Chemistry at the USAF Academy. The proposed date for the workshop is either Saturday, 5 October 2019 or Saturday, 19 October 2019.

At the workshop, the teachers and students would learn about spectroscopy in general and how it is used to do chemical analysis. This would be followed by a session on how to properly use and maintain the Spectronic 200. Next, the participants would do a series of "canned" experiments, The canned experiments will allow the participants to get comfortable with the spectrometer and see the power of the instrument for doing chemical analysis. The last part of the day would be for students and teachers to design and execute their own experiments. As a final project, the participants from the recipient schools will submit a short paper describing the experiments they've done at their school and their plans for using the spectrometer in the future.

To apply:

Please send the following information to Dr Ron Furstenau at atfurstrp@gmail.com by 1 May 2019. Winners will be contacted via email by 15 May 2019.

Your name and email address:

School:

Grade levels for which the spectrometer will be used:

Do your students currently use a visible spectrometer? If so, what labs is it used for?

Courses for which the Spectronic 200 will be used:

Labs for which the Spectronic 200 may be used:

- Example: AP Chemistry; kinetics of the decomposition of blue dye in bleach

- Example: 6th grade science: measure the amount of blue dye in Powerade vs Gatorade

Estimated number of students impacted over the course of a year in each course:

Any additional information you'd like to provide that might aid us in the selection process: