



HOUSTON-LOUIS STOKES ALLIANCE FOR MINORITY PARTICIPATION

H-LSAMP Overview and Objectives

The Houston-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (H-LSAMP) is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students who graduate with bachelor's degrees in the sciences, mathematics, engineering, and technology (SMET) areas from one of the following six universities:

University of Houston
Texas Southern University
Southwest Texas State University

Rice University
UH-Downtown
UH-Victoria

Students may apply to become H-LSAMP scholars in the colleges of either the San Jacinto College District or the Houston Community College System for their first two years, then transfer to one of the participating universities to earn a baccalaureate degree. Transfers are contingent upon being admitted to one of the universities.

Program Objectives

- Double in 5 years, the annual number of underrepresented minority students who graduate with degrees in SMET disciplines
- Offer excellence workshops associated with high risk courses and other enrichment programs
- Provide research experiences to undergraduates
- Encourage students to pursue graduate study in SMET disciplines
- Provide stipends to reduce the financial burden associated with a college education
- Provide internships with real world experience associated with academic studies

Retention

Fifty percent of SMET students are at risk for dropping out or not completing college on time. H-LSAMP has developed and implanted a three-point approach that has proven to be effective.

The Collaborative Learning Community (CLC) allows students in high-risk classes (classes with traditionally high failure rates that constitute important core requirements for SMET degrees) to reinforce classroom learning with specially designed workshop experiences where students hone learning and problem-solving skills. Additionally, CLC workshops teach study and communications skills, help develop time management and goal setting abilities, and promote team building.

Mentoring

H-LSAMP Scholars are integrated into a dynamic, multi-tiered support and mentoring network designed to assure continuity of relationships and appropriate mentoring for each student's stage of progress. Each H-LSAMP Scholar is matched with an H-LSAMP faculty advisor within that student's institution to help facilitate intensive monitoring of progress, timely detection and correction of problems, and individualized guidance regarding research or industry internships, entrance into graduate school, and career opportunities in SMET fields.

Networking

During the fall and spring semesters, new members of each H-LSAMP Scholar cohort participate in an orientation program. An annual summer H-LSAMP wide seminar weekend and conference at Southwest Texas State University stimulates intellectual development, promotes networking and reinforces the sense of being part of a group with similar goals and aspirations. The conference provides H-LSAMP Scholars, and other LSAMP students from across the country, the opportunity to make oral and/or poster presentations based on research conducted with their professors. Awards are given for the best papers and posters presented.

Research

The H-LSAMP is rich in opportunities for research experience. Many of the research centers and institutes within H-LSAMP institutions have committed to providing H-LSAMP students the opportunity to participate in research activities. University of Houston faculty members conduct research in areas such as computer and computational science, geology and geophysics, mathematics, chemistry, aeronautics, materials science, and biology and biochemistry. Each institution identifies research programs and places students with researchers. These faculty members and organizations make it possible for H-LSAMP students to work on special projects to reinforce academic skills acquired in the classroom and prepare the student for graduate education. Internships in industry and in educational settings are encouraged as well.

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