

OK-LSAMP STEM

OKLAHOMA LOUIS STOKES ALLIANCE FOR MINORITY PARTICIPATION FUNDED BY NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



What Is OK-LSAMP?

The Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) is a consortium of colleges and universities within the state of Oklahoma aimed at increasing substantially the quantity and quality of students from underrepresented populations receiving degrees in the STEM fields. In the first 5 years or Phase I of the program (1994-1999), more than 640 Native American, African American, Latino, and Pacific Islander undergraduates participated in summer bridge programs, fall and spring semester scholars programs, and summer research internships. The goals for the next five years or Phase II (1999-2004) emphasized expanding the research experience throughout the entire academic year, implementing a summer transfer bridge program to ease the transition from 2-year to 4-year institutions, and preparation for graduate school. The current Phase III (2004-2009) targets a smaller number of junior and senior STEM majors interested in pursuing graduate study and entering the workforce as faculty and researchers. Graduate school preparation is a major focus of Phase III.

Program Qualifications and Expectations

Scholars Program: Juniors and seniors may receive stipends up to \$2,500 per semester providing they: 1) are enrolled full-time; 2) are majoring in an acceptable STEM field; 3) have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA; 4) are recommended by faculty within their respective departments; 5) demonstrate an interest in research and commit to participation in faculty-supervised research training and; 6) demonstrate a genuine interest in pursuing a graduate STEM program.

Summer Research Internship Program: Participating OK-LSAMP students are afforded opportunities to engage in research at Oklahoma's research institutions (OSU, OU, TU), various corporations, or with mentors at other partner or affiliate institutions with stipend support in the amount of \$3,500 for 8 weeks. Students are encouraged to seek internships at other higher education institutions, private industry, and government research facilities and agencies.

The Bridge to Doctorate Program

The *Bridge to Doctorate* (BD) Program was initiated by the National Science Foundation in 2003 as a supplement for Phase III LSAMP Alliances. The program aims to enhance the transition from undergraduate study to graduate study and broaden opportunities for qualified students to pursue graduate degrees in STEM. In July 2004, the Oklahoma LSAMP program received funding for this new initiative, with Oklahoma State University as the BD Site. To date, 16 LSAMP Phase III programs across the country have implemented BD programs.

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Preparing Future Scientists and Engineers

OSU enrolls 12 BD students in the Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Engineering, and Veterinary Medicine

BD Program Admission Requirements

- Baccalaureate degree in STEM discipline
- Minimum 3.0 GPA
- Undergraduate participation in LSAMP program
- U.S. Citizenship
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty who have some knowledge of general character, academic performance, dependability, and ability to work with others
- Copy of Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores
- Admission to the OSU Graduate College
- · Admission to a STEM department
- · Commitment to pursue the Ph.D. in a STEM field

BD Program Provisions

Tuition and fees ... Monthly stipend ... Conference travel ... Graduate school survival seminars and workshops ... Professional development workshops ... Mentoring programs

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