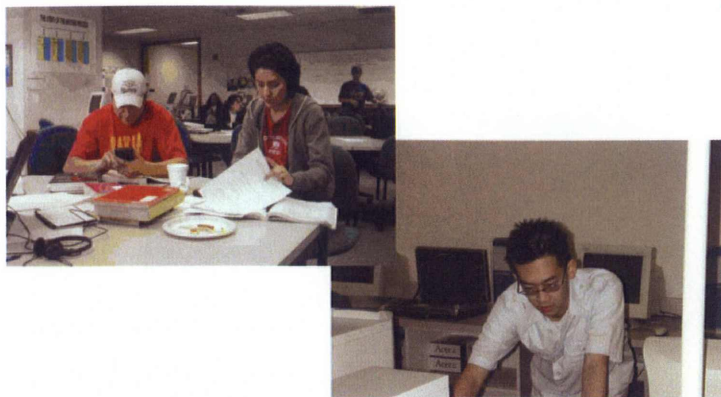# S-STEM PROGRAM

Supporting talented students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics

SCHOLARSHIPS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS PROGRAM

The S-STEM program makes grants to institutions of higher education to support scholarships for academically talented, financially needy students. The scholarships assist students in completing an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree in a science and engineering discipline, and then entering the workforce or pursuing further education. Grantee institutions are responsible for selecting scholarship recipients and managing the S-STEM project at the institution.

The S-STEM program emphasizes the importance of recruiting students to science and engineering disciplines, mentoring and supporting students through degree completion, and partnering with employers to facilitate student career placement in the STEM workforce. The goals of the S-STEM program include:

- Improved educational opportunities for students;
- Increased retention of students to degree achievement;
- Improved student support programs at institutions of higher education;
- Increased numbers of well-educated and skilled employees in technical areas of national need.

Students to be awarded scholarships must demonstrate academic talent and Federal financial need and be enrolled full-time in a degree program in a STEM discipline. In addition, they must be U.S. citizens, permanent residents, nationals, or lawfully admitted refugees.

S-STEM grants may be made for up to five years for a total of up to $600,000 and may provide individual student scholarships of up to $10,000 per year, depending on financial need. Scholarship money may be used for any item in the institution's cost of attendance. Grantee institutions may elect to support individual student scholars for four years or may elect to support several cohorts of students for a shorter duration within the award period.

Project features should include:

- Close student-faculty interactions.

- A student cohort.

- Other student support services to ensure student retention and placement.

It is expected that scholarship recipients will achieve at least one of the following by the end of the scholarship award period:

- Receive an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree in one of the STEM disciplines;
- Transfer from an associate degree program to a baccalaureate degree program or from an undergraduate program to a graduate program in one of the STEM disciplines;
- Successfully complete a stage within an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree program in one of the STEM disciplines that, in the particular institution, is a point of unusually high attrition.

NSF makes approximately 100 grants each year in the S-STEM program.

The program does not make scholarship awards directly to students; students should contact their institution's Office of Financial Aid for this and other scholarship opportunities.

Integrating Diversity into NSF Programs, Projects, and Activities
Broadening opportunities and enabling the participation of all citizens – women and men, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities – is essential to the health and vitality of science and engineering. NSF is committed to this principle of diversity and deems it central to the programs, projects, and activities it considers and supports.

For further information, please visit the S-STEM web page at:
http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5257

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