



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION STEP GRANT

NSF-STEP Full Scholarship Award for Students in Science

The Science Talent Expansion Program (STEP) is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The goal of the program is to broaden access and success for students in basic science research and other STEM (Science, technology, Engineering and Mathematics) disciplines, including those from underrepresented groups such as women, minorities, and students with disabilities. The NSF-STEP Program is **not** intended for students going into health professions.

The GPA earned at the time of submission of the application will be used to confirm eligibility. This GPA does **NOT** include grades in developmental courses.

Eligibility criteria, the student must be:

- U.S. citizen or national permanent resident.
- High school graduate or current college student enrolled at Eastfield full-time taking at least 12 credit hours.
- Working on a science-related field at Eastfield College and/or intending to transfer to a four-year college in a science field of study.
- Able to demonstrate academic potential and at the time of application have a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- Committed to participate in science-related activities offered at Eastfield College during the term of the award.

Amount to be awarded: Up to \$ 1,500 per semester.

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Instructions: Complete the form below. In order for your application to be considered, you must include all of the items listed at the bottom of this form. Awards may be made based upon need or merit. Applicants will be notified of application outcome via email or personal letter. Final selections will be based on strength of application and personal interview if conducted.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

(PLEASE PRINT or TYPE)

Name _____ Date _____

Student ID or Social Security # _____ Email Address _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Telephone _____ Cell Phone or Alternate # _____

Gender: Female Male Ethnicity _____

Disability Status: Hearing Visual Mobility/Orthopedic Learning Disability Other: _____
 None

Citizenship: U.S. Citizen Permanent Resident # A- _____

Birthplace _____

Parent's or Guardian's Highest Level of Education:

Mother _____ Father _____ Other _____

Are you working now? Yes No If yes, how many hours a week? Less than 20 hours 20 hours or more

II. ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Last High School Attended _____ Cumulative GPA (HS) _____
(name and city)

College(s) Attended: _____
(name and city)

Major _____

Degree(s) you plan to pursue _____

School in which you are currently enrolled _____
(name and city)

Current Academic Classification: Freshman Sophomore Other _____

Major _____

Cumulative GPA _____ Expected Date of Graduation _____

III. PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

As a recipient of the National Science Foundation STEP Grant Scholarship you will be expected to participate in science and research activities offered at Eastfield College during the term of your award. The following activities are required for STEP scholars:

1. Facilitate, co-facilitate or present a science project once per academic year
2. Assist or serve as a host for a tour of the Science facility and labs when visited by other schools or faculty
3. Participate in a least one science outreach program per academic year

The following activities are offered for your academic enrichment. Students are encouraged to attend these events on a regular basis:

1. Join the Eastfield College Science Club
2. Attend at least three Science Club meetings per semester
3. Attend at least three Science Seminars per semester

Select NSF STEP Scholars with outstanding performance, excellent participation and faculty recommendations may be selected by the grant staff to attend a science-related conference along with grant personnel or faculty. The scholars registration, travel, lodging and meals will be paid by the grant. This is a limited opportunity and will not be made available to all awardees. The likelihood of conference attendance will be increased by participation in above activities and will require faculty recommendation, and STEP grant team approval.

IV. BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT

1. Describe any projects you have worked on or completed that demonstrate your interest in science.

2. Briefly discuss any research experience you have had.

3. List extracurricular and/or community activities in which you have participated in the last two years. *(Include dates and organizations)*

4. List any honors, awards or special recognition you have received during the past two years. *(Include dates and institution)*

5. List employment or work study positions held the last two years.

V. PERSONAL STATEMENT

Essay 1: (1) State your educational and career goals/objectives, (2) describe factors that contributed to your interest in science, (3) describe experiences or interests that may be related to this scholarship. You may attach a separate sheet of paper if desired, but do not exceed one page of double spaced text.

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Essay 2: Please describe any and all information you think may be relevant to how this scholarship will help you to accomplish the goals you set out in the previous essay. You may attach a separate sheet of paper if desired, but do not exceed one page of double spaced text for this essay.

VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation must be submitted **with** your application to be considered complete. Failure to include these documents will prohibit the applicant from being considered for an award and no action will be taken.

1. Submit a copy of your most recent transcript with this application. (*Applicants who are college freshmen may submit a high school transcript if they have not accumulated college hours*).
2. Attach **two** letters of recommendation from science faculty/teachers which address:
Attach **two** letters of recommendation from science faculty/teachers which address:
 - (a) Length of time the teacher has known you
 - (b) Level of motivation exhibited and academic performance in his/her classes
 - (c) Intellectual curiosity – interest in learning
 - (d) Commitment to educational endeavors and quality of work
 - (e) Reliability- intellectual and personal integrity, promptness, conscientiousness
 - (f) Personal character and maturity
 - (g) Likelihood of succeeding in a science related field.

Letters of recommendation must be verifiable and may be submitted on letterhead or include contact information of the faculty member making the recommendation.

VII. AGREEMENTS, AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I understand that if selected as a National Science Foundation STEP Grant scholarship recipient, I must remain in good academic standing with at least a 3.0 GPA and continue progress toward graduation and/or transfer to a four year institution in a science field of study. I agree to participate in STEP activities and fulfill the Program Participation requirements noted in section III for the term of my award. I realize this scholarship is awarded through federal funding and as such, failure to meet these standards may result in loss of the scholarship, and/or repayment of funds awarded.

I authorize Eastfield College and STEP program staff to obtain information necessary to the execution and mandatory reporting of the grant program including:

- Progress reports, coursework, grades and academic performance here and at the four year institution attended
- Financial aid awards, status and information
- Student services rendered or needed for successful completion of program
- College transfer information necessary to verify admission, completion and degree data

The information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I fully understand that it is my responsibility to notify college Financial Aid Office and the STEP program staff of any changes in degree/program, GPA, contact information, or eligibility status, which would affect my rights to receive this scholarship.

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Please submit completed applications to: **NSF-STEP Office, Room- C123, at 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150**,
For more information, please call Norma Mendoza at 972-860-7389.

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Education opportunities are offered by Dallas County Community Colleges without regard to race, age, national origin, religion, sex, disability or sexual orientation