



**EASTFIELD COLLEGE  
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION STEP GRANT**



## **FULL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

**Purpose.** The Science Talent Expansion Program (STEP) is funded by the National Science Foundation to broaden access and success for underrepresented populations such as women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities. The primary focus of this program is assistance for students seeking Science, Engineering and Mathematics degrees. If there is available funding after primary awards are made Technology students may apply and be considered on a case by case basis if their degree meets goals of the STEP grant.

**Exception** -NSF STEP Program is **not** intended for students going into health professions due to the restrictions of the funding agency. College records and transcripts will be reviewed in the eligibility process.

**Eligibility Criteria** - All applicants must meet the following criteria to apply for a full scholarship award:

- Be a U.S. citizen or national permanent resident.
- Have Eastfield College as the home campus for degree pursuit
- Be a recent high school graduate or current Eastfield student
- Enrolled as full-time student taking at least 12 credit hours
- Pursuing a science, engineering, or mathematics degree and/or intending to transfer to a four-year institution in a STEM related field of study.
- Demonstrate academic potential and persistence toward a STEM degree
- Have at least a 3.0 GPA at the time of application (*does not include grades in developmental courses*)
- Agree to participate in STEM related activities during the award term to retain funding

**Award Amount** - Up to \$ 1,500 per semester; maximum of \$6,000 per student

**Number of Awards** - Up to 12 full scholarships may be awarded per academic year (fall through spring). Additional awards may be made based upon the amount of available funds and number of scholars continuing their program.

**Applications for Fall Awards** - are accepted May 1<sup>st</sup> - September 15<sup>th</sup> until the maximum scholarships are awarded. If the Fall allocation is depleted, non-funded applications in the Fall pool will be considered for available Spring awards.

**Applications for Spring** - are accepted October 1<sup>st</sup> – December 12<sup>th</sup>. Fall scholarship recipients must submit the **Scholarship Award Continuation Form** for review by December 1<sup>st</sup> to receive their Spring allocation. Continuation scholarship awards are contingent upon student's fulfillment of eligibility requirements and compliance with the terms of the Student Agreement.

**Selection Process** - Recipients of funding are determined by eligibility, quality of the application, field of study, reference letters, merit/or need and academic transcripts. Applications are evaluated by a diverse panel of faculty and staff who assign numerical values to each application component. Students are then ranked by the highest scores and receive consultation prior to the award. It is a competitive process. Quality counts.

**Terms** – All scholarship recipients must comply with the eligibility criteria and the Student Agreement to retain scholarship funds.



**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION- FULL AWARD**  
 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Majors  
 Eastfield College NSF STEP Grant



**Instructions:** You must be an undergraduate student and provide all requested information for your application to be accepted. Applications will be evaluated by a panel of reviewers. Awards may be made based upon need or merit. Final selections will be based on strength of application so applicants are encouraged to be attentive to all requests. Please **PRINT** neatly or attach a document created in MS Word.

**A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone or Alternate # \_\_\_\_\_

<u>For Grant Reporting Requirements-</u>	Gender:	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Male
Ethnicity _____	Disability Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mobility/Orthopedic	<input type="checkbox"/> Learning Disability
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 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? \_\_\_\_\_

**B. ACADEMIC HISTORY**

School in which you are currently enrolled \_\_\_\_\_

Current Academic Classification:  Freshman  Sophomore  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Last High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_  
 (name and city)

H.S. Science & Math Courses Taken \_\_\_\_\_ High School GPA \_\_\_\_\_

College(s) Attended: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (name and city)

Major \_\_\_\_\_

Declared Major at Eastfield \_\_\_\_\_

STEM Degree(s) you plan to pursue at your transfer school: \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative College GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

### C. PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

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

1. Attend scholars meetings and workshops
2. Meet with the STEP Student Services Specialist at least twice a semester
3. Submit required progress reports in a timely manner
4. Volunteer time to help with at least one event or activity each semester

The following activities are offered for your academic enrichment. Students should participate in some of the following events to retain their scholarship:

1. The Eastfield College Science or Math Club (or other STEM related club)
2. NSF-STEP Lecture Series
3. STEM related field trips
4. University transfer trips

Students who cannot make the commitment required above are not eligible for the scholarship. Failure to comply with participation standards may result in loss of scholarship funds and ineligibility for future awards.

### D. BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT

1. Describe any science or research projects you have worked on that demonstrate your interest in STEM fields of study.
2. List extracurricular and/or community activities in which you have participated in the last two years. (*Include dates and organizations*)
3. List any honors, awards or special recognition you have received during the past two years. (*Include dates and institution*)
4. List employment or work study positions held in the last two years.
5. Are you currently eligible for financial aid? \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any special circumstances that make it more difficult for you to pay for college and you would like that to be considered with your application, you may share that here:

## E. PERSONAL STATEMENT

On separate paper, please write an essay of your personal statements about the following areas. Attach the page(s) to the completed application with the appropriate heading on the attachment. The quality of the content and response to the specific criteria is scored and competitive with other applicants. It is advised that candidates take their time to do good work if they are serious about receiving a scholarship. Applications that do not address all **six** points of the **Personal Statement** **will not** be reviewed. The Personal Statement should not exceed two pages of double spaced text.

- (1) State your educational objectives
- (2) Share your career goals and reason(s) for the selection
- (3) Describe factors that contributed to your interest in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics
- (4) Describe experiences or interests that may be related to this scholarship
- (5) Describe how this scholarship would help you accomplish your goals
- (6) Tell us why you should be a recipient of the scholarship funds

## F. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation must be submitted **with** your application to be considered complete. Failure to include these documents will prohibit the application from being reviewed by the panel 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 teachers in STEM disciplines and 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 your field

Letters of recommendation must be verifiable and may be submitted on letterhead or include contact information of the faculty member making the recommendation. The applicant is urged to give a copy of the suggested content to the faculty member from whom they are requesting a letter. The quality of the recommendation letters is also scored.

## G. AGREEMENTS, AUTHORIZATION AND INFORMATION RELEASE

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**
- **Continue progress toward graduation and/or transfer to a four year institution in a STEM field of study**
- **Participate in STEP activities as noted in section C. (Program Participation), for the term of my award**
- **Consult with the Student Services Specialist before changing, or dropping any courses**
- **Respond to contacts from the STEP grant staff required for student tracking and reporting**

I realize this scholarship is awarded through federal funding and failure to meet these standards may result in loss of the scholarship, and/or repayment of funds awarded. Withdrawals, failing grades or failure to continue classes required for my STEM degree will initiate a leadership review and may be grounds for probation and/or termination of my scholarship.

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 in the DCCCD
- 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
- Progress reports, coursework and grades from the four year institution to which I transfer

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 the STEP program staff and Financial Aid Office of any changes in degree/program, GPA, contact information, or eligibility status, which would affect my rights to receive this scholarship.

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of STEP Staff Member Receiving the Application \_\_\_\_\_

POST TRANSFER Contact Information - This person may be contacted after the scholar's transfer to a university for the purposes of following up academic progress and obtaining required report data for the grant that funded the scholarships.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact's Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate # \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit completed applications and all attachments to:  
The Eastfield College NSF-STEP Office, Room- C123**

**For more information, please call Laura Thomason at 972-860-7379 or 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