

## Purpose

The purpose of this scholarship fund is to assist academically deserving students with financial need, regardless of race, creed or national origin, to obtain an education in one of five areas of STEM (**biotechnology, chemical technology, computer science, engineering science and engineering technology**) at St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley (STLCC-FV).

## Administration

The scholarship fund will be administered by the STLCC-FV S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship Committee under the direction of the Principal Investigator with advice from the STLCC-FV Student Financial Aid office.

## Amount

### Year 1

To include spring 2007 and summer 2007 semesters, each of the 20 student awards will provide maintenance fees (tuition, plus activity fees) for up to 21 credit hours. Each award will also cover the cost of books, supplies, lab fees, and other expenses related to college attendance, including transportation, child care, housing and food. Allotments will be distributed monthly during each semester for college-related expenses. Each total award in Year One will not exceed \$3,000 per student.\*

### Years 2-4

To include fall, spring and summer semesters, each of the 20 student awards will provide maintenance fees (tuition, plus activity fees) for up to 36 credit hours. Each award will also cover the cost of books, supplies, lab fees, and other expenses related to college attendance, including transportation, child care, housing and food. Allotments will be distributed monthly during each semester for college-related expenses. Each total award in Years Two through Four will not exceed \$5,000 per student per year.\*

\*Scholarships are to be used for expenses normally incurred by all full-time students in the indicated STEM programs at STLCC-FV, as outlined in the U.S. Department of Education Cost of Attendance definition. The scholarship amount shall not exceed the amount given in the original program solicitation.

## Requirements/Restrictions

Applicants must meet the criteria below:

- Be citizens of the United States, Nationals of the United States (as defined in Section 101 (a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act), aliens admitted as refugees under Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, or aliens lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence.
- Be enrolled full time and be a declared major in **biotechnology, chemical technology, computer science, engineering science or engineering technology**, as specified in NSF 06-527. Enrollment must be full time for each semester a student receives a scholarship. A full-time student is defined as being enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours each semester (six credit hours during the summer semester).
- Demonstrate academic potential or ability as determined by the selection committee using application materials.

- Demonstrate financial need\* as determined by the S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship Student Selection Committee based on requested documentation such as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) report and documentation of other financial aid already received. The student application and the Student Financial Aid office at STLCC-FV will report such findings to the selection committee.  
(\* Financial need is defined for undergraduate students by the U.S. Department of Education rules for need-based Federal financial aid.)
- Have achieved the status of graduating high school senior, GED graduate or current college credit student at STLCC.
- Have completed three years of high school mathematics (Algebra I or higher) or college mathematics (Intermediate Algebra or higher) with a grade of “B” or better.
- Hold a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 in *high school mathematics and science*, or a 2.5 *cumulative college* GPA, or minimum ACT *mathematics and science* scores of 20 (or a comparable STLCC Acuplacer score). Current college credit students must be on track to graduate in the same timeline as students already in the S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship program.

## Application Procedures

Students must provide the following:

- A completed S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship application
- Official high school or college transcript(s) if not a current STLCC student
- ACT scores or STLCC Acuplacer placement scores, if not a current STLCC student
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a mathematics or science teacher and one from another teacher or counselor
- Proof of current STLCC student status or a completed STLCC student application
- A doubled-spaced typed two page essay describing the motivation for applying for this scholarship, academic merit (such as honor roll, awards, high school class rank), extra curricular high school or college activities, examples of ability to manage time and resources, and examples of leadership abilities. Any Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses or U.S. FIRST Robotics Competition experiences completed during high school should be listed here.
- A personal interview with members of the S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship Student Selection Committee after application has been received.

## Selection

The S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship Student Selection Committee will screen applications, verify financial need with the help of the STLCC-FV Student Financial Aid office, and conduct interviews of the eligible students. Special consideration will be given to groups underrepresented in STEM fields, i.e., women, racial and ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities. The Principal Investigator (PI) for the project will convene the selection committee, to consist of advisors, counselors, the Co-PIs, and members of the various program Industry Councils.

## Renewal

To retain their scholarship, S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship participants must meet these guidelines:

- Maintain full-time enrollment in one of the five STEM programs (biotechnology, chemical technology, computer science, engineering science and engineering technology) at the associate level.

- Each semester, demonstrate eligibility to receive S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship support by agreeing to uphold all commitments as stated for admission, including maintaining full-time student status, following a course of study in an approved STEM program, passing a minimum of 12 credit hours each semester (six credit hours during the summer semester), and maintaining a GPA of at least 2.5 each semester.
- Since the S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship program's student success is in part dependent on the maintenance of a community of learners, a participant's involvement in S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship program events (i.e., regular S<sup>3</sup> Academy Scholarship program group meetings, study groups, meetings with the project associate, PI or a STEM Program faculty member, meetings with an industry mentor, tours or field trips, service-learning assignments) will also have a bearing upon decisions to renew the scholarship.

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