



STEM STARs

The graphic to the right of the text 'STEM STARs' features three curved lines in blue, with three stars above them. The stars are colored blue, red, and red from left to right, and increase in size from left to right.

NSF STEM STARs Scholarship Program

Scholarship Acceptance and Program Commitment

The NSF STEM STARs Scholarship Program is designed to support students' academic success, professional development, and persistence in STEM disciplines through a structured learning community and comprehensive support network.

Scholarship awards are distributed by semester and are contingent upon continued eligibility, satisfactory participation in program activities, demonstrated financial need, and availability of grant funding.

Student Responsibilities

Enrollment and Academic Standing

- Maintain full-time enrollment (minimum of 12 credit hours each fall and spring semester).
- Remain enrolled in an eligible STEM STARs degree program at the University of South Alabama (Engineering, Chemistry, Physics, or Mathematics).
- Maintain good academic and disciplinary standing with a min. 2.7 GPA to renew.

Degree Progress

- Follow the degree plan and course enrollment guidance provided by academic advisors and STEM STARs program personnel.
- Make satisfactory progress toward degree completion.

Advising and Mentoring

- Meet regularly with assigned academic advisors.
- Meet with my assigned faculty mentor at least three (3) times each semester.

Program Participation

Participate in STEM STARs activities and academic support initiatives, including:

- Designated mathematics course sections
- Recitation sessions
- First-Year Experience seminars
- Mentoring activities
- Program surveys
- Workshops
- STEM STARs-sponsored events and activities, including monthly gatherings, service opportunities, excursions, banquets, research opportunities, and related program events

Communication

- Maintain communication with STEM STARs program leadership regarding my academic progress.
- Promptly notify program leadership of any changes that may affect scholarship eligibility, including:
 - Enrollment status changes
 - Major changes
 - Receipt of additional financial assistance
 - Withdrawal from the University

Professional Conduct

- Conduct myself professionally and respectfully.
- Adhere to University policies ([The Lowdown](#)) and the expectations of the NSF-funded STEM STARs Scholarship Program.

Scholarship Renewal

Scholarship renewal each semester is contingent upon:

- Continued eligibility in an approved STEM degree program
- Submission of the FAFSA annually to demonstrate financial need
- Satisfactory academic progress (2.7 minimum GPA)
- Participation in scheduled program activities
- Adherence to the approved degree plan
- Availability of grant funding

Scholarship funds are applied in equal fall and spring semester installments and may be used toward the cost of attendance.

Scholarship funds cannot be applied to summer semesters, and failure to meet program commitment at the start of an award term may result in forfeiture of scholarship funding.

For more information regarding this scholarship, please contact Gloria Poché in the STEM STARs office at 251-341-3996 or email your question(s) to stemstars@southalabama.edu