



S-STAR: Scholarships in STEM To Achieve Results

- Print this application packet and submit it with ALL documents in person to Mr. Shahriar Sharifi to the MESA office located at E7-210B.
- For more information please visit stem.elac.edu or call (323) 780-6730.

Select your application level

- Level 1: 0 – 24 transferable units
- Level 2: 25 – 60 transferable units
- Level 3: 61 – 90 transferable units

Application Packet Checklist

- 1. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Award Letter
- 2. Essay
- 3. Transcripts
- 4. Signed Educational Plan
- 5. Two (2) Recommendation Letters
- 6. MESA Application

For office use only

Received Date: _____

By: _____



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Description of Award

The National Science Foundation (DUE 1458676) S-STEM scholarship provides financial and academic support to facilitate a successful path for students to complete a degree in a STEM major. Awards are up to \$4,000 per year based on unmet financial need, as reported by the financial aid office (FAFSA). The scholarship *may* be renewed each year until transfer.

S-STAR Level	Completed Transferable Units	Scholarship Amount	Merit-based Amount*	Total
1 – Freshman	0 – 24	\$2,500.00	\$500.00	\$3,000.00
2 – Sophomore	25 – 60	\$3,500.00	\$500.00	\$4,000.00
3 – Sophomore Advanced	61 – 90	\$3,500.00	\$500.00	\$4,000.00

*A merit-based incentive of \$500.00 per academic year will be awarded to students who successfully finish four (4) STEM courses each year with grade “A” or “B”.

Eligibility

1. Student must meet the criterion of financial aid need as defined by the United States department of Education rules for need-based federal financial aid, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
2. Student must be a United States citizen, national, or alien admitted as a refugee at the time of application, or alien admitted for permanent residence.
3. Student must have declared a STEM major as defined in the S-STAR proposal:
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Computer Sciences
 - Engineering & Technology
 - Geology & Earth Sciences
 - Mathematics
 - Physics & Astronomy
4. Student must be enrolled at ELAC as a full-time STEM student in a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester.
5. For Level 1 applicants: completion or assessment into Intermediate Algebra (Math 125) and minimum high school GPA of 3.00.
For Level 2 and 3 applicants: completion of assessment into Pre-calculus (Math 260) or above and minimum transfer GPA of 2.8 with a 3.0 in STEM coursework at time of application.

Women, underrepresented groups, and first-generation college students are especially encouraged to apply.



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Application

I. Personal Information

Student ID: _____

Name _____
Last, First MI Male Female other _____

Birth Date _____ (dd/mm/yyyy) Email _____

Address (Street, City, Zip) _____

Phone () _____ Cell/Alt. Phone () _____

Ethnicity:

African American

Filipino

Caucasian/White

Japanese

Mexican American/Latino

Korean

Pacific Islander

American Indian/Alaskan Native

Vietnamese

(specify) _____

East Indian

Other ethnicity

Chinese

(specify) _____

II. School/College Information

1. What is your major? _____

2. What are your top 3 universities of choice for transfer?

For Level 1 applicants only

3. While in high school did you attend any colleges, including East Los Angeles College? No Yes
If yes, please note which one(s) and what course(s) you took:

4. High School GPA at Graduation: _____

For Level 2 & 3 applicants only

Updated: 8/12/15

NSF Award DUE 1458676



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3. Have you attended any colleges aside from East Los Angeles College? No Yes

If yes, please note which one(s) _____

4. Total number of transferable units _____

5. Cumulative Transfer GPA (out of 4.0 – including ALL colleges attended) _____

6. STEM GPA in transferable courses (out of 4.0 – including ALL colleges attended) _____

Application Packet Requirements

1. Copy of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Award Letter
2. A 500-words essay explaining your interest in pursuing a STEM career, the obstacles you may face while at ELAC, and future goals. The essay must be typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman font, and 12-point size.
3. For Level 1 applicants – high school transcripts showing a minimum GPA of 3.0.
For Level 2 and 3 applicants – Unofficial college transcripts showing minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 and STEM GPA of 3.0 in transferable courses.
4. Copy of student's educational plan signed by STEM Counselor (Marina Rueda and/or Patricia Reynaga)
5. For Level 1 applicants: Two recommendation letters from a STEM high school teacher. (Sealed envelope)
For Level 2 and 3 applicants: Two recommendation letters from a STEM faculty member (Sealed envelope)
6. Complete MESA application, if not ELAC MESA member. MESA application can be found at stem.elac.edu.

The following table shows the programmatic aspects that you will be offered as an S-STAR scholar. Please understand that you will be expected to participate in the activities as described in the table.



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Programmatic Aspect	MESA	S-STEM
STEM Counselor	Mandatory once a semester (30 minutes each, 1 hour total per year)	Mandatory twice a semester (30 minutes each, 2 hours total per year)
STEM Student Advisor	Optional	
STEM Faculty Mentor	Optional Participation	Mandatory twice a semester (30 minutes a month for a total of 5 hours a year)
SI Coach / Tutors	Optional; mandatory depending on student progress evaluation of faculty	
Textbooks & Supplies	Optional	
STEM Retreat	Optional, first-come first-served, priority is given to first year students	Mandatory, space will be reserved and guaranteed for S-STEM scholars (Friday noon to Sunday noon; 2 days total)
STEM Clubs	Mandatory to participate in at least one STEM club of their choice (flexible participation and commitment, usually one hour every two weeks for a total of 15 hours a year)	
Speakers	Optional	Encouraged
Field trips: Universities, Regional and/or National STEM-related Meetings	Optional	
Soft Skills Workshops (writing a resume, time management, etc.)	Optional	
Applying for Scholarships	Optional	Strongly encouraged
Applying for Research Opportunities	Optional	Strongly Encouraged
Volunteering Opportunities	Optional	Encouraged
"Lab Research Skills" Workshop	Mandatory for students performing summer research, optional for others (6 hours, it includes training in RCR, required by NSF)	

*Mandatory activities are planned according to student schedule, and with exception of the STEM retreat, are flexible; therefore, these activities are not burdensome, but rather practices that will help students succeed in STEM.

Student Signature: _____