

 West Texas A&M University™  
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS

Hello,

We appreciate the opportunity to explain an established National Science Foundation S-STEM project at West Texas A&M University to you. The title of the project is “Supporting Low-Income Students for Success in STEM Careers” (SLISS). This project provides Pell Eligible, academically talented first time, full-time freshman STEM students with a **\$5,000** annual scholarship for four years. Full eligibility criteria are provided below and may be found at the following application link <https://apps.wtamu.edu/nsfsstem/>.

**Eligibility criteria**


- First-time, full-time freshman
- 1100 SAT or 26 ACT
- Intention to pursue a career in basic or applied science
- Enroll and continue as a full-time student majoring in Biology, Environmental Sciences, Wildlife Biology, Chemistry, or Physics
- Be a citizen of the United States, national of the United States, alien admitted as a refugee, or alien lawfully admitted to the US for permanent residence
- Classified as a low-income student by Office of Financial Aid and have unmet financial need
- Maintain a 3.3 GPA on a semester basis in order to remain eligible for the scholarship

Applicants also need to have a recommendation letter sent from a high school teacher, counselor or advisor. This individual needs to have met with you to specifically discuss your interest in one of the scholarship program STEM fields and needs to be able to attest to your potential for success in the selected STEM field. Additionally, applicants need to provide an essay of no more than 3,000 characters (approximately one page) that addresses areas identified in the application link. Finally, you will need to complete your Admission Application to West Texas A&M, the WTAMU General Scholarship Application and the FAFSA in order to be considered for the S-STEM scholarship. The links for these are provided on the application website <https://apps.wtamu.edu/nsfsstem/>.

Students selected for this NSF-funded program will benefit from and participate in these required activities: peer mentoring, faculty mentoring/advising, student success coaching, a career skills workshop and a leadership skills workshop. Selected students will also complete the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) as both freshman and seniors. Similarly, they will complete various questionnaires and surveys used to assess effectiveness of project activities.

This is an excellent opportunity for you or somebody you know to succeed in a STEM field. The application deadline is **April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**. If you have any questions about this project please do not hesitate to contact me, Dr. Nick Flynn, at 806-651-2542 or via email at [nflynn@wtamu.edu](mailto:nflynn@wtamu.edu).

Sincerely,



Dr. Nick Flynn  
Professor of Biochemistry