

Applications for the STEM Scholars Program

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I demonstrate financial need?

To qualify for the program, you must complete the FAFSA and your EFC (Expected Family Contribution) must be less than SWIC's cost of attendance.

How can I get a letter of recommendation?

You need to have someone write a letter of recommendation for you. That person can be a instructor or counselor, but it can also be a friend of the family who knows you well. Make sure you give them the page of the application meant for the letter writer. The letter should specifically discuss your interest in STEM, and the letter writer might not know this without being given instructions.

Can I apply for the program even if I don't know what my major will be?

If you know you will major in some kind of science or engineering, then you can apply to the STEM Scholars Program, even if you haven't yet made up your mind.

I want to be pre-med or pre-pharmacy. Can I be in the STEM Scholars Program?

No, the STEM Scholars program is not open to people hoping to work in clinical fields.

Does the scholarship just apply to SWIC, or can I use it at other colleges and universities?

The scholarship can only be used at SWIC.

Will the scholarship be enough to cover all of my expenses?

The scholarship will cover all tuition, fees and books during fall and spring semesters up to \$7000 per year. Depending on financial need, the scholarship may provide money towards cost of living expenses.

Do I have to do anything in exchange for the money?

Yes. The STEM Scholars Program is not just a scholarship. Each semester, awardees are required to take a special class, attend several off-campus events, meet with faculty mentors multiple times, and be a part of a weekly study group. Students will lose their scholarship if they fail to fully participate in the program.

My current job is my top priority. Should I apply for the scholarship anyway?

Because the STEM Scholars program requires that you be a full-time student and attend events outside of class time, you should only apply if you work minimal hours (less than 15 per week) in a flexible job that lets you schedule around school activities.