

**SOUTHWESTERN GEORGIA STEM PATHWAYS ALLIANCE  
(SWGA-SPA) LSAMP PROGRAM**

Dear Student,

We are writing to inform you of an opportunity for underrepresented minority (URM) students in LSAMP approved Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) majors. The Southwestern Georgia STEM Pathways Alliance (SWGA-SPA) was created to provide support to URM students in these fields of study.

The SWGA-SPA is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program with the goal of transforming the STEM learning environment by significantly increasing the number of URM majors graduating with baccalaureate degrees and applying to graduate programs in the STEM disciplines.

The Southwestern Georgia STEM Pathways Alliance is an alliance of ~~five~~ institutions in southwestern Georgia, including Valdosta State University. The SWGA-SPA program will support admitted students by providing financial support in addition to academic and research support through faculty mentoring, research internships, group meetings, annual conferences, and graduate school preparation.

Please see the attached ~~file~~ program will support

**SOUTHWESTERN GEORGIA STEM PATHWAYS ALLIANCE  
(SWGGA-SPA) LSAMP PROGRAM**

**MENTORING/RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY  
UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY STUDENTS IN STEM**

The Southwestern Georgia STEM Pathways Alliance (SWGGA-SPA) is a collaborative research project funded by the National Science Foundation Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) with the goal of transforming the STEM learning environment by significantly increasing the number of URM majors graduating with baccalaureate degrees in STEM disciplines and entering graduate STEM programs.

**Program Benefits**

In addition to the financial stipends, participants will receive the benefits of the following program components:

- Mentoring
- Research internship opportunities
- Annual research conference and graduate school fair meetings
- Preparation for the Graduate Research Examination (GRE)

**Applicant Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for the program, an applicant must:

- Be a student enrolled at one of the partner institutions listed in the table below
- Pursue an associate or undergraduate degree in an LSAMP approved STEM discipline
- Be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident with a documented qualifying condition (see application for types of conditions)
- Have a GPA of at least a 2.5 in high school (for entering Freshman) or college as calculated by the HOPE scholarship program or a 145