# Austin College's Career Empowering STEM Scholars (ACCESS) Program



With generous funding from the National Science Foundation, six scholarships will be awarded to outstanding freshman applicants through a highly competitive selection process. Austin College's Career Empowering Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Scholars (ACCESS) program is a holistic approach to supporting students with financial need who are interested in a STEM career (not health science related).

Scholars receive

- 1. a scholarship of up to \$10,000
- 2. a paid opportunity to participate in summer research
- 3. individualized STEM mentoring in addition to regular mentoring and
- 4. monthly professional development meetings with STEM faculty.

The ACCESS Scholarship is renewable annually as long as the recipient maintains a 3.0 cumulative and major GPA on a 4.0 scale. ACCESS scholars must be United States citizens or permanent residents and must intend to major in biology, biochemistry, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, or physics. Women, underrepresented minority students, and first-generation college students are especially encouraged to apply.

<b>Basis for Consideration</b> The Scholarship Committee will consider candidates based on the following:		<b>The Selection Process</b> Applicants should plan ahead. FASFA information must be available to determine financial need. Both	
•	Evidence of academic achievement, minimum GPA for consideration is 3.0 on a 4.0 scale	the application and the recommendation letter must be submitted (or received) by <b>March 1</b> .	
•	Financial need	Each application will be considered by a committee of representatives from the departments of biology,	
•	Intended major	chemistry, computer science and mathematics, and physics.	
•	Career goals statement	Recipients will be notified by the Office of	
•	STEM teacher recommendation letter	Admission by April 1 and must accept/decline the award offer by May 1.	

Austin College Office of Admission | 900 North Grand Avenue Suite 6N | Sherman, Texas 75090 austincollege.edu | 800-KANGAROO | admission@austincollege.edu

Austin College reserves the right to change on an annual basis the types, number, criteria, or values of scholarships. In addition to the General Academic Scholarships awarded each year, Austin College has a limited number of institutional scholarships that require separate applications or nominations. A new student may apply for an unlimited number of institutional scholarships. However, a student may receive only one institutional award in addition to the general academic scholarship. For a student receiving financial assistance, a merit-based award may replace in whole or in part a need-based grant or loan.

Austin College welcomes applications for admission from all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, age, sexual orientation, religion, physical handicap, or national and ethnic origin. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992, Austin College will make every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of its students with disabilities.



## Part I – Basic Information, please print neatly

Name:			
Last	First		Middle Initial
Home Address:			
Street	City	State	Zip Code
High School/College You Attend:			

By applying for the ACCESS Scholars Program I, \_\_\_\_\_\_, give permission for the Austin College Office of Admissions and the Director of the ACCESS Program to access my Austin College application materials and financial aid information for the purposes of considering my application for this program. I understand that some information will be reported, in aggregate form, to the National Science Foundation to show depth and breadth of applicant pool.

Signature

date

# Part II – Career Interest Information

Intended Major (Mark the appropriate box, you may mark more than one if you have not decided):

□ Biology □ Biochemistry □ Chemistry □ Computer Science □ Mathematics □ Physics

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Occupation:

In typed one-page or less, please answer to the following questions.

- 1. What are your career goals?
- 2. How will an Austin College STEM degree support your career goals?
- 3. How do you envision that participation participating in the ACCESS Scholars program will enable you to reach your goals?

### Part III - Recommendation Letter

Applicant: Please provide this page to a STEM teacher who has agreed to write a recommendation letter supporting your application to the ACCESS program.

Recommender: The Austin College ACCESS Scholarship Committee asks that your recommendation be typed on school letterhead and address the five criteria below, citing specific examples for each to illustrate the candidate's merits.

- Description of relationship with candidate, including degree of familiarity
- Evidence of personal character and/or special talents
- Evidence of STEM academic achievement and intellectual curiosity
- Personal impressions of the candidate that indicate he/she would be successful at college
- General supporting comments (information that may include employment, leadership examples, etc.)

### **Please Print**

Student Name:			
Recommended by:			
Position and Title:			
High School or College:			
Address:			
Street	City	State	Zip Code
Home Phone:	Work Phone	Work Phone:	
Preferred Email Address:			

Signature

Date

#### Mail Application and Recommendation to:

ACCESS Scholarship Committee Austin College Office of Admission 900 North Grand Avenue Suite 6N Sherman, Texas 75090