

ALABAMA ALLIANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (AASD-STEM)

The Alabama Alliance for Students with Disabilities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (AASD-STEM) is a collaborative research project funded by the National Science Foundation with the goal of increasing the quantity and quality of students with disabilities receiving associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

Students with disabilities are invited to apply to serve as mentors in one of the following AASD-STEM mentoring programs.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the Bridge programs, an applicant must:

- Be an enrolled student with a documented disability
- Pursue an associate, undergraduate, or graduate degree in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics disciplines
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Meet GPA requirements listed below

Bridge to Baccalaureate Program: This program is for freshmen and sophomores with disabilities who plan to obtain a bachelor's degree in STEM disciplines. Participants will mentor high school students with disabilities and will in turn be mentored by students participating in the Bridge to Post-Baccalaureate program. Freshmen entering into the program are required to have a minimum high school GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale. Freshmen are required to raise their GPA to 3.0 out of 4.0 by the end of their first academic year to remain eligible for the stipend. Sophomores must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale and are expected to raise their GPA to 2.8 out of 4.0 by the end of their sophomore year to remain eligible for the stipend.

Bridge to Post-Baccalaureate Program: This program is for juniors and seniors with disabilities who are pursuing a bachelor's degree in STEM disciplines. Participants in this program will mentor Bridge to Baccalaureate program participants and will in turn be mentored by graduate students or faculty. Juniors and seniors will be required to have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 on a 4.0 scale and a GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 in their declared STEM major.

Graduate Bridge Program: This program is for graduate students with disabilities who have demonstrated a commitment to pursuing a PhD in STEM fields. Graduate Bridge fellows will mentor participants in the Bridge to Post-Baccalaureate program. Each applicant must be accepted into the graduate program to qualify. Applicants must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 on all graduate work to remain eligible for the stipend.

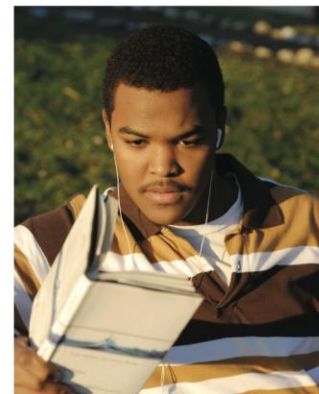
Compensation

Participants in the Bridge to Baccalaureate and Bridge to Post-Baccalaureate programs will each receive a **\$2,000** stipend per academic year renewable up to two years, while participants in the Graduate Bridge program will each receive a **\$3,500** stipend per academic year renewable up to two years.

Maintaining Eligibility Requirements

Bridge participants must:

- Be full-time students and meet GPA requirements listed above
- Complete at least two hours of traditional and online mentoring activities per week
- Participate in enrichment activities such as time-management, study-skills, and tutoring workshops and professional or association meetings
- Continue to pursue a degree in STEM disciplines



Application

A complete application package consists of the following:

- Completed application form
- Documented verification of disability from your Medical Doctor or Southern Union State Community College Office of Disabilities Program or Services

Applications are accepted at any time throughout the year. Qualified students are selected on first-come first-served basis.

Mail your complete application package to:
Dr. Mary Jean White, Dean of Instruction
Southern Union State Community College AASD-STEM
Southern Union State Community College
1701 LaFayette Parkway
Opelika, AL 36804
Email: mjwhite@suscc.edu

