

NSF STEM Scholarship

Project Goals, Objectives and Activities

The PSU Engineering Technology Scholarship Program will provide financial assistance and increased student support services in order to increase the retention rate of students majoring in engineering technology. The program has three primary goals.

Goal 1: Improve educational opportunities for low income, academically talented students in engineering technology careers, especially students in underrepresented groups.

Objective 1: To provide 4 year scholarships to at least 13 students in the areas of engineering technology of which at least 4 students from underrepresented groups such as minorities and women.

Activities:

- Promote the NSF Scholarship Project at high schools Kansas anywhere there is a high rate of poverty and/or underrepresented groups through on site presentations, static displays and guidance counselor recommendations
- Identify and maintain a pool of eligible students who possess interest in pursuing careers in math and science
- Select students who will receive scholarship awards

Goal 2: Increase retention of students to degree achievement in Engineering Technology at PSU.

Objective 2: 70% of the students who receive a scholarship will graduate with a B.S. in engineering technology in 4 years. From 1995 to 2004 48% of engineering technology students graduated in 4 years.

Activities:

- Engage students in individualized academic planning via student development workshops and an assigned academic counselor
- Provide support services to students including tutors, and a collaborative learning room with computers, colloquium or cohort activities and regular sessions with the Principal Investigator, Co Principal Investigator and advisors

Goal 3: Improve student support programs in engineering technology

Objective 3a: Improve academic support for students to include enhanced tutoring in Math Science and Technology courses. Currently free tutoring is available for introductory math, science and writing courses

Activities:

- Hire and train tutors to staff the collaborative learning room
- Conduct a meeting to introduce tutors to the program participants and explain the expectations for the tutors and the students; this meeting will also cover hours of operation and locations
- The Principal Investigator will meet at least monthly with the tutors to assess the utilization and effectiveness of the tutoring

Objective 3b: Provide awareness of faculty or industry internships to all scholarship recipients and have at least 75% of the students complete at least one internship.

Activities:

- Provide internship program awareness for participants
- Assist participants through the S-STEM Leadership Support Program in resume and interview preparation
- Work with students, the Engineering Technology Industry Advisory Boards, and local industry to place students in internships that will expose them to the broad opportunities available to them