



What to Expect When You Are a FOSSI Scholar

Congratulations on being selected as a FOSSI Scholar!

Below you will find answers to some frequently asked questions by new FOSSI Scholars.

How much is the scholarship?

Students will receive scholarships of \$10,000 per year for up to four years, totaling up to \$40,000.

Can I accept other scholarship offers in combination with the FOSSI Scholarship?

The FOSSI scholarship can be used for **tuition, and university-provided room and board**. A student can accept additional scholarships but they cannot exceed the total cost of their education.

How are scholarships paid?

AIChE will pay the scholarship directly to your HBCU educational institution per semester prior to payment deadlines. Funding will be applied to your student account for tuition, and university-provided room and board.

What are the requirements of a FOSSI scholar during the school year?

Note: Failure to fulfill these requirements could result in loss of the scholarship.

- The multi-year scholarship will be reviewed each semester and is contingent upon an approved STEM major, full-time course of study at an HBCU and satisfactory academic performance (maintaining a 2.5 out of 4.0 GPA annually).
- Participation in all engagement opportunities with assigned corporate sponsor and all Fundamentals of Success (FoS) program activities (unless excused)
- Completion of FoS program assignments including surveys and webinars by due date
- Scholars are expected to respond within two business days to all communications from their corporate sponsor and from the Fundamentals of Success (Adrienne Blanks).

What is the Fundamentals of Success (FoS) program?

- This FoS program will include a mix of virtual career development workshops, one-on-one engagement with corporate partners, on-demand learning, and virtual scholar meetings with special guest speakers and opportunities to meet and network with other FOSSI scholars and partnering companies. These activities will require a total of about 8 hours over each school year.

What is the benefit of having a designated corporate sponsor?

All scholars will be paired with a corporate sponsor who will be available for additional support throughout your college career. FOSSI sponsors may be in contact with you via email or by phone. Students will benefit from these relationships by acquiring future career opportunities and real-life professional skills. Students will have the opportunity to hear from top corporate leaders who will share their experiences and expertise. Through various large and small engagements, students will also have the chance to experience corporate culture prior to graduation and to begin developing a long-term plan for success.



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How are scholars matched with corporate sponsors?

As part of the onboarding process, sponsors are asked to provide detailed information including relevant STEM fields of interest and geographic preferences, to help make the best match for both sponsors and scholars.

Will I receive an internship?

Our corporate partners are eager to provide opportunities for FOSSI scholars. Internships are not guaranteed, but we hope to have a robust pool of offerings and will make every effort to accommodate students who want an internship.

How many internship opportunities are available?

This will vary annually, and will depend on the sponsoring companies and how many positions are available.

Are internships paid?

Internship compensation varies according to each sponsor company's policies.

Why am I being asked to complete surveys?

FOSSI Scholars will be asked to complete brief surveys at the beginning of the school year and at the end of each school year. The purpose of these surveys are to monitor the progress of our scholars and make adjustments to the program as needed.

How can I interact with other FOSSI Scholars?

You will have the opportunity to interact with other FOSSI Scholars in your sponsor cohort (depending on size) and at program-sponsored events that bring the entire cohort together. You can also connect on Instagram using **#fossinow**.

What happens if I decide to change STEM Majors?

- We anticipate that some students will change their majors over the course of their college career.
- To maintain the scholarship, **students must pursue studies in a FOSSI-approved STEM field.**
*Preferred STEM majors are identified on a yearly basis by FOSSI administrators based on relevance to the chemical industry and supporting sponsor preferences. Preferred majors may include, but are not limited to: Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Math, Computer Science, Biochemistry, Material Science, Environmental Sciences, IT, and Sustainability.
- **FOSSI is not intended for students interested in pursuing careers in nursing, medicine, psychology, social sciences and other associated fields.** Some fields of study which may be considered STEM may not qualify for FOSSI scholarships.



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What if I decide to transfer to a college that is not an HBCU?

The FOSSI Scholarship is open to students pursuing STEM studies at an HBCU; if you transfer to a non-HBCU, you are no longer eligible for the scholarship.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Adrienne Blanks at fossi@futureofstemscholars.org

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