



STEM-Mia Program Application

Academically Talented STEM Student Scholarship



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Miami Dade College
InterAmerican Campus
School of Engineering + Technology
701 SW 27th Avenue,
Room 6025-19
Miami, FL 33135

STEM-Mia Program

About the Program

Under the Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE) program of the National Science Foundation (NSF), Miami Dade College InterAmerican Campus will implement STEM-Mia (“my STEM”), a project that will provide scholarships and a variety of supports to support academically talented, low-income STEM students’ retention, graduation, and transfer to four-year colleges/universities. The project will provide scholarships, as well as educational supports and such as faculty mentoring, one-credit STEM support and transfer courses, field trips, summer research experiences, presentations by industry professionals, research presentations, and other activities.

MDC InterAmerican Campus a predominantly two-year Hispanic Serving Institution located in Miami, Florida. It has a long history of providing students with engaging educational experiences through grant-funded programs. Students participating in paid summer internships will work with faculty researchers at the Florida International University, University of Florida, or Miami Dade College.

STEM-Mia addresses the national challenge of recruiting, retaining, and graduating academically talented, low-income students in STEM career disciplines. A variety of supports, such as scholarships, mentoring, engaging with STEM professionals, summer researcher experiences, yearlong colloquia, and transfer assistance. These have proven effective in promoting achievement among undergraduates. However, this initiative uniquely targets academically talented, low-income college students at MDC majoring in a STEM field in order to test the efficacy of scholarships and social supports as a best practice model for improving retention, persistence, and graduation/transfer to 4-year colleges/universities.

Affecting 45 students over five years, STEM-Mia participating students could improve their academic outcomes. The grant will help prepare academically talented, low-income students for STEM-related careers, which are in high-demand and critical to building a competitive workforce that will help grow America’s economy.

MDC InterAmerican Campus supports the NSF overall goal of improving STEM students’ success in order to increase America’s technological and scientific competitiveness – to expand career opportunities for academically talented, low-income students.

Benefits

- ❖ Scholarship
- ❖ Conduct research during summer (paid stipend and limited spaces)
- ❖ Dedicated mentoring by STEM faculty
- ❖ Courses to prepare for success in STEM career and transfer to a four-year college/university
- ❖ Year-long colloquia (STEMinars)
- ❖ Field trips to industries
- ❖ STEM community engagement - networking, interviews, and more with industry professionals
- ❖ Support of other S-STEM Scholars (cohort experience)
- ❖ Assistance transferring to four-year college/university

STEM-Mia Program

Eligibility

In order to be considered for this program, the following criteria will be used for participant selection. The students must:

1. Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
2. Must be enrolled as college student at MDC and earned no more than 30 credits upon admittance to the STEM-Mia program
3. Must demonstrate financial need (completed FAFSA application)
4. Completed, exempted, or currently enrolled in College Algebra (MAC1105)
5. Committed to completing an AA degree in a STEM area, and pursuing a STEM career or transferring to a 4-year college / university after graduating
6. Have a cumulative MDC GPA of 3.0 or higher

For more information, or if you have questions, please contact:

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Miami Dade College - InterAmerican Campus
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STEM-Mia Program Application

Applicant Information

Last Name: _____ First: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Miami Dade College Student ID: _____

Street Address: _____ Apartment Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

MDC Email Address: _____ Personal Email Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

High School: _____ High School GPA: _____ Current College GPA: _____

Major: _____

CHECKLIST

- This completed application form** (page 4)
- Essay must be typed, double-spaced with 12-point font:** What are your short-term academic goals? Explain how this scholarship will help you achieve your career goals in the next five years. **(500 words maximum)**
- TWO Recommendations** from MDC faculty. At least one reference must come from a STEM instructor. Faculty providing the recommendation must complete the **two-page reference form** (pages 5-6). The completed reference forms should be placed into a sealed envelope and submitted with the application.
- Copy of MDC Degree Audit/Transcript (unofficial)
- Sign Acknowledgement of Cohort Expectations (page 7)

Please provide their information below:

Reference #1

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Title: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Institution Name: _____ Department: _____

How long have you known the person providing the reference? _____

Reference #2

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Title: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Institution Name: _____ Department: _____

How long have you known the person providing the reference? _____

Mail or hand deliver completed application packet to:

STEM-Mia Program
School of Engineering, Technology, & Design
Miami Dade College - InterAmerican Campus
627 SW 27th Avenue, Room 6025 (Building 6 on the second floor)
Miami, FL 33135

**STEM-Mia Program
Faculty Reference Form (Page 1 of 2)**

Applicant's Last Name:	Applicant's First Name:	MDC Student ID:
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Dear faculty member, please complete the following two-page form and **return it to the student in a sealed envelope** for inclusion in his/her application package. Your candid assessment of this student will play a significant role in the selection process.

Faculty's Name: _____ Title: _____

Department: _____ Office Phone Number: _____

How well do you know the applicant? very well well fairly well very little

How long have you known the applicant? _____

You were the student's instructor for: science technology engineering math other

Briefly describe the circumstances under which you have come to know the applicant: _____

Please evaluate the applicant in each of the following areas by checking the most appropriate box for each characteristic. Provide a comment, if you deem appropriate.

1=Outstanding, 2=Above Average, 3=Satisfactory, 4=Below Average, 5=Unable to Evaluate

Characteristic	1	2	3	4	5	Comments
Motivation						
Self-direction						
Self confidence						
Academic Potential in a STEM discipline						
Commitment to STEM discipline						
Reliability - Consider attendance, participation, & ability to meet deadlines						
Initiative & Industry Consider resourcefulness & ingenuity						
Promise for a career in a STEM field						

**STEM-Mia Program
Acknowledgement of Cohort Expectations**

I, _____ (PRINT FULL NAME), by joining the STEM-Mia program cohort, acknowledge that I will benefit from a scholarship and full range of intensive supports, such as undergraduate research with cash stipend, dedicated STEM advising, STEM focused one-credit course, one-credit transfer assistance course, monthly career-related activities/field trips, STEM faculty mentoring, STEM community engagement, cohort experience, and transfer assistance.

I also acknowledge that in order to maintain my STEM-Mia cohort membership status, I agree to fulfill the following obligations:

- Must be enrolled as a full-time student (12 credits or more) in every major terms (fall and spring);
- Meet with STEM-Mia faculty mentor monthly for support and during the registration period to select appropriate classes for the next term;
- Register and take full advantage of two specialized STEM-Mia courses (IDS 1107 in fall of the first year of the scholarship and IDS 2124 in fall of the second year of the scholarship);
- Participate in all the activities (including surveys) conducted by STEM-Mia project staff, faculty members, External Evaluator, Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigators, etc.;
- Participate in the STEMinars (only one absence is allowed each semester);
- Participate in the field trips/career site visits;
- Participate in all the other STEM community-building events organized by STEM-Mia (only one excused absence is allowed each semester);
- Permit Miami Dade College to photograph and video record my appearance at any STEM-Mia events in which I have agreed to participate. I understand that these materials will not be used for any commercial purpose, but solely for the non-profit use of the College;
- Participate in structured STEM-Mia activities every Wednesday from 10:00AM to noon during major terms (fall and spring)

Applicant's MDC ID: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____