NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise

National Science Foundation Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM)

The NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise supports low-income and academically talented students majoring in Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, or Environmental Sciences in the Department of Natural Sciences at the University of Virginia's College at Wise. Depending on financial need, students receive scholarships of up to **$5,000 annually for 4 years – $20,000 total –** for first-time freshmen and up to **$5,000 annually for 3 years – $15,000 total –** for transfer students.

Eligibility Criteria

- Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or an eligible non-citizen
- Demonstrate financial need (be Pell Grant eligible) and have filed a FAFSA form with the UVa-Wise Financial Aid Office
- Accepted to UVa-Wise as a full-time freshman or transfer majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, or Environmental Sciences in the Department of Natural Sciences
- Minimum 3.0 high school GPA or top 25% of graduating class for freshmen or AA degree with 2.5 GPA for transfers (desired)

Application Process

1. Complete the NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise **Application Form**
2. Prepare a **Personal Statement** articulating STEM interests, accomplishments, and motivations to pursue a STEM education (typed, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-point font, 2 pages maximum)
3. Submit **two** complete NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise **Recommendation Forms**, with at least one from a science or math instructor

Mail the complete application to:	**Or Email the application to:**
NSF S-STEM Scholarship Program at UVa-Wise *c/o Josephine Rodriguez, Ph.D.* *Department of Natural Sciences* *The University of Virginia's College at Wise* *1 College Ave. Wise, VA 24293*	*Josephine Rodriguez, Ph.D.* *Director, NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise* *Email: jrodriguez@uvawise.edu* *Please use the subject "NSF S-STEM Application from (your name)"*

It is highly recommended that applicants contact Professor Josephine Rodriguez before applying
Email: jrodriguez@uvawise.edu
Office: (276) 376-3439
Questions: NSF_SSTEM@uvawise.edu
Website: https://www.uvawise.edu/academics/department-natural-sciences/nsf-scholarships/

Evaluation of Applications will be done by a committee and will use a rubric to score all of the components of the application to ascertain potential in the sciences, maturity, motivation, leadership, and determination. Applications are due January 1, 2020 for priority consideration but will be accepted on an on-going basis until March 1, 2020 for Fall 2020.

Disclaimer: Funding provided by **NSF DUE 1833781** to Josephine Rodriguez, for "Bridging the Natural Sciences and Liberal Arts to Increase Retention, Graduation, and Career Preparedness" and the views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the NSF.

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Application Form

Last Name *First Name* *M.I.* *Date*

Street Address *Apartment/Unit #*

City *State* *ZIP Code*

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Are you a citizen of the United States? YES ☐ NO ☐

If no, are you a permanent resident or eligible non-citizen? YES ☐ NO ☐

Education

High School: _____ GPA: _____

Address: _____ Grad. Date: _____

SAT or ACT: _____

Community College: _____ GPA: _____

Address: _____ Grad. Date: _____

Disclaimer and Signature

Accepting the NSF S-STEM Scholarship means that I agree to:

- Be a full-time student, enrolled in prescribed courses for the BS degree program in Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, or Environmental Sciences in the Department of Natural Sciences at UVa-Wise
- Complete degree requirements in either 4 years or 2.5 years, for freshmen or transfers, respectively
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA overall, 2.5 GPA in required major courses
- Enroll in NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise Seminars
- Participate in additional activities including: cohort-building events; the faculty mentoring program; the completion of yearly surveys; and professional development activities

I certify that my answers are true and correct. I understand that my answers are subject to verification with original documents submitted at the time of application to UVa-Wise and I give permission to the Office of Admissions to share my application information. I also give the Office of Financial Aid permission to release my name and information regarding my eligibility for financial need-based scholarships. I also give permission to the Directors of the NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise to include my information, academic progress, participation in NSF S-STEM activities as part of their reporting requirements to the National Science Foundation; I understand that this reporting is done in the aggregate and my name will not be in any of the NSF S-STEM yearly reports.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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Recommendation Form (#1)

Instructions to applicant: Please complete the information below and then give this form to the individual writing your recommendation. **Reminder:** At least one of your recommendations must come from a science or math instructor.

Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Instructions to recommender: The student named above has applied for the NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise. Please complete this recommendation, seal it in an envelope, and return it to the applicant or mail it to:

NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise
c/o Professor Josephine Rodriguez
Department of Natural Sciences
The University of Virginia's College at Wise
1 College Ave.
Wise, VA 24293

Please refer to https://www.uvawise.edu/academics/department-natural-sciences/nsf-scholarships/
or contact NSF_SSTEM@uvawise.edu for any questions on the NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise

Name: _____ **Email:** _____

Relationship: _____ **Phone:** _____

School/Address: _____

Please evaluate the applicant* on the following:

	Excellent Top 10%	Good Top 25%	Average Top 50%	Below Average Below 50%	Unable to evaluate
Overall potential					
Intellectual ability					
Analytical ability					
Motivation					
Resilience/determination					
Time management					
Oral communication					
Written communication					

**relative to the current class*

Comments or Letter of Recommendation (#1):
Thank you for your time in completing this recommendation. Please use the space below or use your own letterhead stationary (*preferred*) to describe the applicant's aptitude, potential, and talent for science as well as their motivation, resilience, ability to manage time and resources, and communication skills. Please describe your relationship with the applicant as well as their strengths and weaknesses. Please include any additional details that suggest the applicant will be successful in the NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise.

NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise

National Science Foundation Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM)

Recommendation Form (#2)

Instructions to applicant: Please complete the information below and then give this form to the individual writing your recommendation. **Reminder:** At least one of your recommendations must come from a science or math instructor.

Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Instructions to recommender: The student named above has applied for the NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise. Please complete this recommendation, seal it in an envelope, and return it to the applicant or mail it to:

NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise
c/o Professor Josephine Rodriguez
Department of Natural Sciences
The University of Virginia's College at Wise
1 College Ave.
Wise, VA 24293

Please refer to https://www.uvawise.edu/academics/department-natural-sciences/nsf-scholarships/
or contact NSF_SSTEM@uvawise.edu for any questions on the NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise

Name: _____ **Email:** _____

Relationship: _____ **Phone:** _____

School/Address: _____

Please evaluate the applicant* on the following:

	Excellent Top 10%	Good Top 25%	Average Top 50%	Below Average Below 50%	Unable to evaluate
Overall potential					
Intellectual ability					
Analytical ability					
Motivation					
Resilience/determination					
Time management					
Oral communication					
Written communication					

**relative to the current class*

Comments or Letter of Recommendation (#2):
Thank you for your time in completing this recommendation. Please use the space below or use your own letterhead stationary (*preferred*) to describe the applicant's aptitude, potential, and talent for science as well as their motivation, resilience, ability to manage time and resources, and communication skills. Please describe your relationship with the applicant as well as their strengths and weaknesses. Please include any additional details that suggest the applicant will be successful in the NSF S-STEM Program at UVa-Wise.