

OUR MISSION:

The Ventures Scholars Program identifies, recognizes, and supports students from underrepresented backgrounds and helps them pursue math, science and technology-based education and careers.

An Important National Problem:

- **Students of color** continue to be underrepresented in degree attainment. In 2000, they earned 21.8% of all bachelor's degrees awarded, however, they accounted for more than 28% of all undergraduates.
- **Every year underrepresented minorities** enter undergraduate engineering and science curricula; however, they represent less than five percent of the recipients for advanced degrees in engineering and science.
- **Members of underrepresented racial and ethnic groups** make up about 25 percent of the U.S. population. However, their representation among health professionals is only about ten percent.



The Ventures Scholars Program Solution:

The Ventures Scholars Program (VSP) is a national resource that helps increase the number of underrepresented and first-generation college-bound students who pursue math, science and technology education, and, ultimately, careers in related professions.

Starting in high school, students who express an interest in math or science, demonstrate academic excellence, and perform well on national standardized examinations are invited to become Ventures Scholars. Ventures Scholars receive a certificate to recognize their achievement. Their names are provided to their high schools and to local media so that they can be honored at awards ceremonies and given visibility in their communities.

Ventures Scholars are offered a range of free services to help them better connect to enrichment programs, scholarships, internships and other resources. Over 200 college and university members,

including many selective institutions across the country, reach out to Ventures Scholars through mailings, email contacts, and college fairs to further establish communication channels between Ventures Scholars and admissions officers.

After Ventures Scholars transition to college, they are invited to remain part of the Ventures Scholars Program network. Undergraduate Ventures Scholars are invited to utilize education and career planning resources offered by graduate and professional school, and professional association members. The undergraduate Ventures Scholars are also an invaluable source of advice and mentoring for high school Ventures Scholars as they transition from high school to college.

The Ventures Scholars Program provides a variety of communication tools, largely through its Web site, email newsletters, and targeted emails to help Ventures Scholars learn about educational resources, summer jobs and internships, and career opportunities. Networking message boards provide opportunities for new Ventures Scholars to contact and seek guidance from Ventures Scholars now in college or, eventually, in the workforce.

The Ventures Scholars Program, a program of Ventures In Education, Inc (VIE)—a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity—is based on an earlier, more narrowly defined prototype created in 1990, the Minorities In Medicine (MIM) Program. The MIM Program played a significant role in increasing the number of minority college graduates prepared for admission to medical schools.

In 1999, the MIM Program transitioned to the Ventures Scholars Program and its mission was expanded to increase the number of underrepresented students pursuing career pathways, not only in medicine, but in the allied health professions, engineering, science, mathematics, and technology.

VENTURES SCHOLARS REPRESENT BOTH DIVERSITY AND ACHIEVEMENT

The Ventures Scholars Program collaborates with the College Board and ACT to identify students who meet specific academic requirements and career interests and invites them to join the Program.

Over 13,000 high achieving high school students, from 50 states, have accepted the invitation to become Ventures Scholars.

- Male (39%), Female (61%)
- African American or Black (48%), Hispanic (44%), Native American (4%), Other (4%)
- First-Generation, College-Bound Students (neither parent/guardian attended college) (18%)
- Household Income under \$40,000 per year (33%)

Ventures Scholars have expressed interest in a variety of math, science, and technology-based careers.

- Biological and Life Sciences (10%)
- Computer and Information Sciences (6%)
- Engineering (19%)
- Health Sciences and Services (45%)
- Mathematics (2%)
- Physical Sciences (3%)
- Undecided (15%)

Over 3,000 Ventures Scholars are now utilizing the newly developed undergraduate component of the Ventures Scholars Program.

Benefits for Ventures Scholars

Ventures Scholars are provided with a variety of free services:

- Ventures Scholars are invited to communicate with the Ventures Scholars Program Consortium, with a membership of over 200 colleges, universities, graduate schools, professional schools and professional associations.
- The Ventures Scholars Program web site offers high school and undergraduate Ventures Scholars extensive academic and career-related information.
- Ventures Scholars and family members receive biweekly e-newsletters and other written material that provide links to resources and opportunities.
- High school and undergraduate Ventures Scholars can use e-communication tools to contact other Ventures Scholars in high schools and colleges nationwide and form supportive relationships.
- Ventures Scholars and their families are invited to attend events to learn about the college planning process and math-, science-, and technology-based careers.
- Ventures Scholars and their families can contact the Ventures Scholars Program staff and Consortium members with questions.





VENTURES SCHOLARS PROGRAM

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

MANY OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE COUNTRY ARE AFFILIATED WITH VENTURES IN EDUCATION

Consortium Member Benefits

The Ventures Scholars Program Consortium brings together high schools, undergraduate institutions, graduate and professional schools, and professional associations. The Program provides opportunities for them to work together and help underrepresented and first-generation college-bound students successfully prepare for math-, science-, and technology-based careers.

Public and private high school guidance counselors link students to the Ventures Scholars Program services, and utilize VSP services to better advise students interested in math-, science- and technology-based education and careers.

Consortium members are provided with a variety of opportunities to communicate with Ventures Scholars and their families and to share information about programs and opportunities at their institutions. Customized selections from the Ventures Scholars database are offered as part of Consortium membership.

Professional association Consortium members utilize the Ventures Scholars Program Web site and other customized communications to inform Ventures Scholars about future careers, provide guidance for their education and opportunities, and connect Ventures Scholars to their members for internships, scholarships, and, eventually, full-time employment.

VENTURES SCHOLARS MEMBER UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE INSTITUTIONS, PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, AND ORGANIZATIONS

Colleges, Universities, and Associations Representing 38 States
(updated July 13, 2004)

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Alabama (2)

University of Alabama In Huntsville
University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa

Arizona (2)

Northern Arizona University
University of Arizona

Arkansas (1)

University of Arkansas

California (7)

California Institute of Technology
California Polytechnic State University
California State University, Sacramento
Harvey Mudd College
Pomona College
Scripps College
Westmont College

Colorado (2)

Colorado School of Mines
Fort Lewis College

Connecticut (4)

Trinity College
United States Coast Guard Academy

University of Connecticut
Yale University

District of Columbia (4)

American University
Georgetown University School of
Nursing & Health Studies
George Washington University
Howard University (CEACS)

Florida (6)

Barry University
Florida A&M University
Florida Institute of Technology
New College of Florida
Palm Beach Atlantic University
University of South Florida

Georgia (5)

Emory University
Georgia State University
Shorter College
Spelman College
University of Georgia

Illinois (5)

Elmhurst College
Illinois College
Illinois Institute of Technology

Loyola University Chicago
Robert Morris College

Indiana (6)

Ball State University
DePauw University
Indiana University
Purdue University
Saint Mary's College
Wabash College

Iowa (3)

Grinnell College
Luther College
University of Iowa

Kansas (1)

Bethany College

Louisiana (2)

Loyola University of New Orleans
Xavier University

Maine (2)

Bates College
Colby College

Maryland (3)

Goucher College

COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND ASSOCIATIONS continued

Morgan State University
Towson University

Massachusetts (18)

Amherst College
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
College of the Holy Cross
Hampshire College
Harvard College
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Merrimack College
Mount Holyoke College
Northeastern University
Simmons College
Simon's Rock College of Bard
Smith College
University of Massachusetts-Amherst
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Williams College

Michigan (3)

Hope College
Kalamazoo College
Kettering University

Minnesota (2)

Carleton College
Macalester College

Mississippi (1)

Jackson State University

Missouri (1)

Truman State University

New Hampshire (2)

Dartmouth College
Saint Anselm College

New Jersey (6)

College of New Jersey, The
Drew University
Montclair State University
Ramapo College of New Jersey
Rutgers University
Seton Hall University

New Mexico (1)

New Mexico Highlands University

New York (35)

Adelphi University
Albany College of Pharmacy
Alfred University
Bard College
Barnard College
Binghamton University (SUNY)
Canisius College
City College of New York/CUNY
Colgate University

College of New Rochelle, The
Columbia University
Cooper Union
Cornell University
Daemen College
Fordham University
Hartwick College
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Marist College
Marymount Manhattan College
New York University
Polytechnic University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rochester Institute of Technology
Saint Joseph's College
Sarah Lawrence College
Skidmore College
Sophie Davis School of
Biomedical Education/CUNY, The
Southampton College of Long Island
University
St. Lawrence University
Stony Brook University (SUNY)
Syracuse University
University at Albany (SUNY)
University at Buffalo (SUNY)
University of Rochester
Wells College

North Carolina (2)

Bennett College
Davidson College

Ohio (10)

Baldwin-Wallace College
Case Western Reserve University
College of Wooster, The
Denison University
Kenyon College
Miami University
Oberlin College
Ohio Northern University
Ohio State University, The
Youngstown State University

Oregon (1)

Oregon Institute of Technology

Pennsylvania (28)

Allegheny College
Arcadia University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Cedar Crest College
Dickinson College
Drexel University
Elizabethtown College
Franklin & Marshall College
Gannon University
Gettysburg College
Grove City College
Haverford College
Juniata College

Keystone College
Lafayette College
Lebanon Valley College
Lehigh University
Mercyhurst College
Saint Vincent College
Seton Hill University
Susquehanna University
Swarthmore College
University of Scranton
University of the Sciences of
Philadelphia
Villanova University
Washington & Jefferson College

Rhode Island (1)

Bryant College

South Carolina (4)

Anderson College
Furman University
South Carolina State University/SETS
University of South Carolina at
Columbia

Tennessee (5)

Belmont University
Fisk University
Rhodes College
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Vanderbilt University

Texas (8)

Austin College
Rice University
Southern Methodist University
Southwestern University
Texas Christian University
Texas State University-San Marcos
University of Houston
University of Texas at Dallas, The

Utah (1)

Westminster College

Vermont (3)

Bennington College
Saint Michael's College
University of Vermont

Virginia (7)

College of William & Mary, The
Hampton University
Hollins University
Mary Baldwin College
Norfolk State University
Randolph-Macon Woman's College
University of Richmond

Washington (1)

Gonzaga University

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL

COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND ASSOCIATIONS continued

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

California (1)

University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine

Illinois (2)

University of Chicago, Biomolecular Sciences Program
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine - Urban Health Programs

New York (2)

Binghamton University (SUNY) Graduate School
Daemen College

New Jersey (1)

UMDNJ – New Jersey Medical School

Pennsylvania (1)

Center for Excellence – University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Texas (2)

Baylor College of Medicine
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas

Wisconsin (1)

University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND ORGANIZATION MEMBERS (22)

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AAPC)

American Dental Education Association (ADEA)

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)

American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)

American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY)

Association of American Medical Colleges (MMEP)

Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC)

Association of Physician Assistant Programs (APAP)

Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry

Foundation of NYS Nurses Association, Inc.

Lucent Global Science Scholars

Mathematical Association of America (MAA)

Metropolitan Recruitment Center-SUNY

Minority Health Professions Foundation

National Hispanic Institute

National Student Nurses Association

Ohio Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS AFFILIATES (9)

ACT

College Board

Engineering Education Service Center

National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)

National College Access Network (NCAN)

National Endowment for Financial Education

National Explorers - Learning-for-Life Program

New York State Association for College Admission Counseling (NYSACAC)

National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals (NAGAP)

VENTURES SCHOLARS PROGRAM TESTIMONIALS



intimidating until I saw other students seriously considering these fields. I always felt like those careers were reserved for the 'best of the best'. The Ventures Scholars Program helped me to see that the opportunities in the fields of math and science are abundant and growing, as our society progresses technologically."

-Jaryn Fields, Philadelphia, PA

"Being the first in my family to matriculate to the college and university level, I had been unaware of the plethora of opportunities in higher education. The Program gave me the opportunity to expand my knowledge of universities across the country and allowed me to explore the various free services that the Ventures Scholars Program offers. I hope that the program can continue to aid me in the future when I am in college. The Program is a testament to the pursuit of equity and prosperity in the United States."

-Joel Vazquez, Dallas, TX

"The Ventures Scholars Program has helped a lot during high school by linking me not only to many scholarships but also to information dealing with my intended field (biology). Every two weeks, I receive a newsletter filled with tidbits of encouragement that keep me going and tools that have helped me succeed; one of these tools was another Venture student's essay for college which not only helped me begin my essay, but helped me plan the format and style of my writing. Ventures is an organization that I am proud to be a part of, not only because it helps minorities like myself to get into college, but it also helps us beyond college by pushing us to excel and to reach our full potential."

-Ernesto Lujan, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA

"I first became involved in the Ventures Scholars Program in high school. At a time when I was beginning to search for colleges the program was an invaluable resource for me as well as for my parents. The Ventures Scholar Program assisted in many ways during the college search process, and continues to help me now that I am attending college. The biweekly newsletters help keep me up-to-date with what is happening in the Ventures Scholars Program, as well as information about education planning and career exploration information. They also give information on how to obtain the financial aid needed to attend a post secondary institution."

-Christopher Dixon, Manheim, PA

Venture Scholar Student Testimonials

"The Venture Scholars Program has helped make my journey from high school to college a better experience. A wide variety of colleges and college information has been made available to me by member institutions of the Ventures Scholars Program. I was offered scholarships by some of these member institutions that I would never have learned about if it were not for the Program. I was also provided with information about internships in the science field I want to pursue, college fairs in my area, career information, and many scholarships that I could take advantage of from the biweekly e-newsletter. I had the opportunity to connect with other undergraduate Venture Scholars around the country that gave me valuable insights on how I can expect college life, social and scholastic, to be next year as I enter my first year in college. I gained valuable information and experiences, and I am grateful to the Ventures Scholar Program for helping to provide them for me."

-Valarie Davis, Ellenwood, GA

"When I went to the Ventures Scholars seminar, I realized there were many other students like me. I found that there were other talented students motivated to do the things that I wanted to do. With the negative connotations of all youth today, minority or not, it was good to see other students that wanted to go to college, and possibly pursue math and science-based careers. For me, math and science careers were a little

VENTURES SCHOLARS PROGRAM TESTIMONIALS continued

Professional Association Member Testimonial

"The Summer Medical Education Program (SMEP) has benefited greatly from the important work of the Ventures Scholars Program. A number of the SMEP sites are members of the Program's network, as well as the SMEP National Program Office. Ventures Scholars helped us to increase our presence among a very talented group of students who are aspiring to become physicians. It is not uncommon to meet a SMEP alumnus who learned about the program through one of the numerous Ventures information vehicles.

Professional members are also given opportunities to connect with the day-to-day issues of our youth through the Ventures Scholars e-newsletter and the 'VSP Question of the Week'. I encourage any organization or professional school seeking to draw from a wonderful pool of talented youth to become a member of and support the Ventures Scholars Program. Thanks Ventures!"

-Kevin Harris, Deputy Director, Summer Medical Education Program, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

Member College Testimonial

"Joining the Ventures Scholars Program is an excellent opportunity for academically high achieving students to be informed of the many fine college programs, like the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education at City College. In our very unique program, students receive education and training that leads to their becoming a licensed physician in seven years instead of the traditional eight through a pre-med program.

"This year we accepted sixteen Ventures Scholars! Even though 2004 has been our most successful of the four years we have been a Ventures Scholars member college, our first three years also brought us exceptional students.

"We treasure being a Ventures Scholars participating college and again, looking forward to being a part of their college fair in the Spring."

-Jerrold G. Erves, Assistant Director of Admissions, Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education at City College of New York

Ventures Scholars Parent Testimonial

"The Ventures Scholar Program has helped my daughter and me immensely. It showed her the breadth of colleges she could consider. It provided her with research opportunities as a high school student, and when she needed additional support in college, Ventures provided that as well. The Program's assistance has made high school and college slightly easier."

-K. Braithwaite Jalloh, Ventures Scholar Parent, New York, NY

Guidance Counselor Testimonial

"The Ventures Scholars Program is one that I have observed from two perspectives - that of a College Admissions Professional and now as a College Counselor. The students whose applications I had the pleasure to read during my time in admissions were almost always the strongest of the students of color in our pool especially among those considering careers in the fields of engineering and the sciences. As a college counselor, Ventures provides me useful information and linkages to colleges and professional organizations that are most interested in connecting with my most talented students from diverse backgrounds. The electronic communications we receive are always full of useful information and tools that can be of use to many of the students I counsel."

-Mrs. Malika M. Johnson, Assistant Director of College Counseling, The Bryn Mawr School, Baltimore, MD

