



PROJECT SYNERGY



An NSF-supported cohort program for students majoring in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Engineering, Data Science, and Physics.

What is Project Synergy?

Project Synergy: Developing Connections at the Interface of Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, and Data Science is a new innovative cohort program for students majoring in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Engineering, Data Science, or Physics. Students will take a common curriculum of Cornerstone Seminar, Physics, and Calculus and have the opportunity to explore real-world research problems in their first year. Throughout their four years, STEM Project Synergy scholars will also have enhanced educational opportunities, including a variety of career development and research opportunities available. This program is supported by an NSF S-STEM grant, **and includes scholarship support of up to \$10,000 per year for four years** for at least eight STEM Synergy Scholars per year.

Who is eligible for a STEM Synergy Scholarship?

Interested students must meet the following criteria to apply for a STEM Synergy scholarship:

- Must be admitted to Lewis University as a new freshman in one of the following majors - Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Engineering, Data Science, or Physics
- Must be a United States citizen, permanent resident, or admitted refugee
- Submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for the next academic year
- Earned a 3.0 high school GPA and either a ACT Math sub score of 24 or SAT Math sub score of 600. *Test score submission is optional, but strongly encouraged. Students with GPAs or scores lower than these or no score submission are welcome to apply with supporting materials indicating potential for success in the program.*

How do I apply for a STEM Synergy Scholarship?

Interested students must submit the STEM Synergy Scholarship application through the Office of Admission, including two essays and two letters of recommendation (at least one of which must be from a chemistry, physics, or mathematics teacher). Students should apply by February 25, 2022 to receive priority consideration; however, applications will be considered after that on a rolling basis until all scholarship slots are filled.



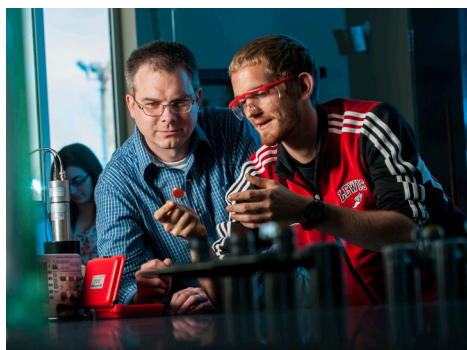
Use this QR code to access the STEM Synergy application or go to

lewisu.edu/synergy



How are scholarships awarded?

Scholarships are awarded primarily based on your application essays, letters of recommendations, and demonstrated financial need. GPA and ACT/SAT Math subscores are also considered.



What do I need to do to retain my scholarship for four years?

- STEM Synergy Scholars must maintain a 3.0 GPA at Lewis University, including successful completion of the designated first year curriculum. If your GPA falls below a 3.0, will be placed on probation with benchmarks to achieve each semester until you get back to a 3.0 GPA.
- Scholars must retain their declared major in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Engineering, Data Science, or Physics
- Participate in several STEM Synergy activities each year, which may include workshops, seminars, and outreach activities.

If I don't receive a scholarship, can I still be a part of Project Synergy?

Yes! Many professional development activities, talks, outreach activities, undergraduate research opportunities, and other opportunities will be open to all students in these programs. There will also be some seats available in class sections designated for STEM Synergy Scholars.

Eligible Programs

- B.S. degrees in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Engineering, Data Science, or Physics
- B.A. in Physics or Chemistry for high school teaching licensure
- B.S. in Chemistry with a Forensic Science concentration
- B.S. in Physics with an Applied Physics concentration for students interested in a range of applications, including Computational Physics, Engineering, Environmental and Climate Physics, and Medical Physics
- Five-year Fast Track (B.S. / M.S.) programs in Chemistry, Chemical Physics, Data Science, and Physics
- Five-year Fast Track B.A. or B.S. in Physics or Chemistry / M.A. in Secondary Education

Do you offer undergraduate research?

Yes! There are active research projects going on in nanotechnology, novel materials for the semiconductor industry and alternative energy and medical applications, high energy physics, climate science and climate impacts, artificial intelligence, parallel computing applications, and robotics. Preparing students for research is an objective of Project Synergy, and STEM Synergy Scholars are encouraged to participate in research early in their college careers.



About Lewis University

Located 35 miles southwest of Chicago, Lewis University is a comprehensive, Catholic university, sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers. With 6,200 undergraduate and graduate students, Lewis is the 8th largest private, not-for-profit university in Illinois. Lewis welcomes students of all cultures and religious faiths with a 40 percent minority population. Lewis has been recognized as a Top 20 Best Midwest Regional University by *U.S. News & World Report* and a Best Midwestern College by the *Princeton Review*. It is a STEM Jobs approved college and was named a Top 5 Best College Value.

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