

## FOSSI SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN AT ANNUAL HBCU WEEK FOUNDATION COLLEGE FAIR

Program Announces 2025 Application Launch & Expansion through 2028

WILMINGTON (September 27, 2024) – Today, The <u>Future of STEM Scholars</u> <u>Initiative</u> (FOSSI) **launched its 2025 scholarship application period,** providing opportunities for high school seniors to apply for \$40,000 scholarships in preferred science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

For the fourth consecutive year, FOSSI launched the application at the <u>HBCU Week</u> <u>Foundation's Wilmington College Fair</u>. This annual event brings together thousands of students, educators and HBCUs representatives to support student enrollment and offer scholarship opportunities.

FOSSI aims to create pathways for students to thrive in STEM and become future leaders in the chemical industry. While already recognized for its achievements, FOSSI continues to grow and has an ambitious goal to award 1000 scholarships. To support this goal, FOSSI also announced it will **expand the program for an additional three years, bringing in new classes of scholarship recipients through 2028.** 

To date FOSSI has raised nearly \$40 million in sponsor commitments to fund more than 800 scholarships. Each recipient is paired with a dedicated corporate sponsor from a pool of more than 80 chemical companies and affiliated industry stakeholders to help them achieve their educational and career goals,

This Fall, FOSSI welcomed **150 new scholars who are attending 26 HBCUs**. FOSSI now has ~600 scholars from more than 30 states across the country enrolled at nearly 50 HBCUs.

2024 FOSSI scholarship recipient, <u>Camille Pair</u>, shared how receiving the FOSSI scholarship is helping her pursue a chemical engineering degree at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, "*FOSSI scholarship support will ensure I can complete school and pursue my dreams...***This scholarship has relieved me** 

## PRESS RELEASE



**of a huge financial burden,** and I now see continuing my higher education as a possibility. I can begin to save money for future degrees instead of taking out loans. I am also excited to join the FOSSI community, collaborate with fellow STEM students, and work with the sponsoring partners.

**The deadline for high school seniors to apply is January 31.** Applications can be submitted at <u>www.FutureofSTEMSchlars.org/apply</u>.

**Sponsorship opportunities for 2025 scholarships will be open until April 1.** To pledge your FOSSI support today, <u>click here.</u>

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## **Future of STEM Scholars Initiative**

The Future of STEM Scholars Initiative was founded by the <u>American Chemistry</u> <u>Council</u>, the <u>American Institute of Chemical Engineers</u>, <u>The Chemours Company</u>, and the <u>HBCU Week Foundation</u>. FOSSI is a national program which provides scholarships to students pursuing degrees in relevant science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Sponsored by chemical manufacturers and related industry stakeholders, FOSSI provides recipients \$10,000 per year for four years and connects these students to leadership development, mentoring and internship opportunities at participating companies.