

STEM Scholarship

Edith Nourse Rogers Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) Scholarship

Effective August 1, 2019, VA launched the **Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship**. It is a provision of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act (Forever GI Bill) that gives extra benefits to students training in the high-demand fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) who have exhausted their Post 9-11 GI Bill benefits. Obtaining a degree in these fields may require more training than others. This provision aims to help cover that difference and give additional incentive for students who choose the careers our society needs most.

The STEM Scholarship will provide up to nine months of additional Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits (to a maximum of \$30,000) to qualifying Veterans and Fry Scholars seeking an undergraduate STEM degree or who have earned a STEM degree and are seeking a teaching certification.

Effective January 5, 2021, section 1001 of Public Law 116-315 expanded eligibility under the **Edith Nourse STEM Scholarship program** to allow scholarships for those enrolled in dual-secondary degrees and health care professionals completing clinical training to become licensed to practice in a state or locality.

Who is eligible for the Rogers STEM Scholarship?

- Student must be enrolled in an undergraduate STEM degree or an undergraduate dual-degree program that includes at least one STEM program requiring at least 120 semester (or 180 quarter) credit hours for completion (the student must have completed at least 60 semester hours or 90 quarter credit hours toward the STEM degree) **or**
- Hold a bachelor's degree in a STEM field and accepted or enrolled in a Teaching Certification program **or**
- Hold a bachelor's or graduate degree in a STEM field and enrolled in a covered clinical training program **and**
- All options require the student has or will exhaust their Post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement within six months based on their current enrollment(s)

What fields of study qualify for the Rogers STEM Scholarship?

Students must be enrolled in or have earned a degree in an approved field of study listed on this webpage:

<https://www.va.gov/resources/approved-fields-of-study-for-the-stem-scholarship/>

What Information Will the School be Asked to Provide

If a student enrolled at your school or training facility applies for the STEM Scholarship and indicates your school on the application, the Primary SCO will receive an automated email requesting the information below be provided within 14 days of receipt. The student will also receive a copy of the request. If the student hasn't named your

school at the time of application, or you don't respond to the automated email, you may receive a similar email from a Veterans Claims Examiner (VCE). We can't make a formal determination on the student's eligibility for the STEM Scholarship until we receive the following information from the school:

➤ **If the applicant is an undergraduate**

If the student is currently enrolled in an undergraduate program, please provide the following:

- Is the student pursuing a bachelor's degree in an approved STEM program?
- Full name of student's STEM program
- 6-digit CIP Code assigned to the program
- Credit hours completed toward STEM program, specified as semester or quarter hours. (In-progress credits should not be included):
- Total required credit hours for STEM program (specify semester or quarter):

Note: If the student is enrolled in a dual-degree program, at least one of the degrees must include an undergraduate degree in an approved STEM field. For dual-degree programs, please provide the total credit hours required for the dual-degree program as well as the credits completed toward the dual-degree program when responding.

➤ **If the applicant is a teaching certificate candidate**

If the student already has an undergraduate degree and is seeking a teaching certification, please provide the following:

- Has the student earned a bachelor's degree in an approved STEM program?
- Name of STEM program of degree held by student
- 6-digit CIP Code of degree conferred
- Is the student currently enrolled in a program leading to a teaching certification?

➤ **If the applicant is in a clinical training program for health care professionals**

If the student already has a bachelor's or graduate degree and is pursuing a clinical training program, please provide the following:

- Has the student earned a bachelor's or graduate degree in an approved STEM program?
- Name of STEM program of degree conferred
- Is the student currently pursuing a covered clinical training program for health care professionals? (Programs approved for the Rogers STEM Scholarship)
- Total length of clinical training program (in months or years):
- Amount of clinical training program completed to date (in months or years):

Additional factors to be aware of:

- Priority will be given to individuals who are entitled to 100% of Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and to those who require the most credit hours to complete their program.
- Chapter 33 private school academic year maximum rates apply to the STEM scholarship program.
- The Yellow Ribbon Program is not available with STEM. Schools may apply Yellow Ribbon funding, but VA can't match it.
- These additional benefits can't be transferred to dependents.
- Fry Scholars are eligible to apply for the Rogers STEM Scholarship.
- There is a STEM indicator on your WEAMS 1998 report that is currently not used by VA. Your 1998 report will likely reflect 'NO' in the STEM indicator field, even if your school has qualifying STEM programs. (This is the expected outcome).