The Robert Noyce Teaching Scholarship Program provides funding to Holy Family University through the National Science Foundation in order to provide scholarships and stipends to high achieving STEM undergraduate students with the goal to prepare STEM majors and professionals to become K-12 educators. At Holy Family University, our STEM Futures program will provide two-year scholarships to mathematics, neuroscience, biochemistry, and biology (tracks included) majors who simultaneously earn a Teacher Certification in biology and/or mathematics. Students would be eligible to earn additional certifications in chemistry and/or physics based on their chosen plan of study.

STEM Futures Scholars will receive scholarships of up to $10,000 per year in their junior and senior years.

As this program seeks to increase the number of K-12 educators with strong STEM content knowledge who teach in high-need school districts, STEM Futures Scholars must commit to teach full-time in a high-need school as a STEM teacher for two years for each scholarship year. To support this, STEM Futures Scholars that graduate from Holy Family University will also receive $10,000 per year in salary support for five years following graduation as long as they are teaching in a high-need school.

Application Requirements

Please submit:

1. a cover letter including:

-Personal Introduction

-Explanation as to why you would like to pursue a career in STEM K-12 education

-Your interest in serving within a high-need school

-Any experiences that may be relevant

-Your cover letter should be 12 point font and no more than 2 pages

2. a completed Application Form (Section I)

3. two Letters of Recommendation completed by faculty, staff, or professionals within the K-12 educational discipline (see Section II)

4. a completed Applicant Confirmation Form (Section IV)

5. an Unofficial College Transcript (applicants must possess a 3.0 cumulative GPA or higher)

Please submit this completed application electronically to:

Dr. Edward A. Waddell

Assistant Professor of Biology

Holy Family University

stemfutures@holyfamily.edu

**Section I:** Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student ID#: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Current Major GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Program you are interested in (select all that applies):

-Biology with Grades K-12 Teacher Certification

-Chemistry with Grades K-12 Teacher Certification

-Physics with Grades K-12 Teacher Certification

-Mathematics with Grades K-12 Teacher Certification

Current Academic Advisor(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current Minor(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Section II:** Recommendations

You must request two letters of recommendation. References must come from faculty, staff, or professionals with a K-12 educational discipline that can attest to your academic background, leadership, and potential to teach STEM disciplines effectively in a high-needs K-12 setting. You must have at least one letter of recommendation from a faculty from your major department. It is highly recommended that both letters of recommendation come from individuals with a STEM background.

**Section III:** Terms of Service

STEM Futures Scholarship recipients will be expected to:

-enter into an agreement with Holy Family University, committing to teach full-time in a high-need school within the United States as a licensed teacher in mathematics or science for two years for each scholarship year received;

-complete a biology, biochemistry, mathematics, or neuroscience degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher;

-complete two education minors (Minor in Secondary Education and Minor in Secondary Education Practice);

-complete the teaching licensure program within two years of receiving a STEM Futures scholarship;

-meet the teaching commitment within six years of completion of the program;

-participate in STEM Futures Workshops and mentoring activities with teacher mentors and other scholars;

-upon graduation, complete an exit interview with the Office of Career Services and sign an agreement regarding continuing responsibilities as a STEM Futures Scholar; and

-participate in seminars and assessment activities required by the National Science Foundation and by the STEM Futures program.

**Definition of High-Needs Local Educational Agency (LEA):**

-A high-needs LEA is a U.S. local educational agency (e.g., school district) that has at least

*one school* that:

1. meets at least one of the following criteria:
	1. not less than 20% of the children served by the school are from families making less than twice the poverty rate;
	2. serves at least 10,000 children from families making less than twice the poverty rate;
	3. is eligible for funding under the Small, Rural School Achievement Program under 20 U.S.C. 7345(b); or
	4. is eligible for funding under the Rural and Low-Income School Program under 20 U.S.C. 7351(b);

And

1. meets at least one of the following criteria:
	1. has 15% or greater percentage of teachers not teaching in the academic subject areas or grade levels in which the teachers were certified; or
	2. has a 15% or greater teacher turnover rate; or
	3. has a 15% or greater percentage of teachers with emergency, provisional, or temporary certification or licensure.

**Section IV:** Applicant Confirmation Form

Please read and initial each of the following statements to indicate that you understand and agree to the statements should you be selected as a STEM Futures Scholar.

-I certify that all of the information in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

-I understand that I must maintain a 3.0 or higher GPA to earn Pennsylvania teacher certification.

-I understand by applying for this scholarship the Selection Committee will independently verify my academic background and GPA.

-I understand that I must complete a major in either Biology, Biochemistry, Mathematics, or Neuroscience.

-I understand that I must complete both required Educational Minors.

-I understand that I must complete the teacher certification program for a STEM field.

-I am able to pass all criminal background checks that are required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

-I understand that I am required to teach full-time as a certified science or mathematics teacher in a high-needs school for two years for every year of STEM Futures scholarship received, and must complete this commitment within eight years of graduating. If I fail to complete the teaching obligation as specified, I must repay the STEM Futures scholarship money received.

-I agree to participate in the STEM Futures workshops and in mentoring activities with teacher mentors and other scholars.

-I agree to participate in seminars and assessment activities required by the National Science Foundation and by the STEM Futures program.

-I certify that I am a U.S. citizen or national, or permanent resident alien.

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_