



Please email SCS@jmu.edu with any questions about the Second Century Scholarship Program.

James Madison University is the place to be for students who want to better tomorrow's world by focusing on crucial issues facing our society. The university's commitment to addressing national and world needs related to science and technology is represented by our Second Century Scholars program. This program provides financial support to exemplary students entering fields in the domain of [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics \(STEM\)](#).

Incoming freshmen enrolling in one of the designated STEM programs may qualify to be recognized as Second Century Scholars and receive scholarship support. The Second Century scholarship is awarded for a maximum of four years of undergraduate work, provided recipients continue in any one of the [designated STEM majors](#) and maintain a high level of academic performance and commitment to their studies. The amount of the scholarship is set at **75 percent of in-state tuition and fees** for the year recipients enter the university and continues at this amount for a maximum of four consecutive years.

The Second Century Scholars program is evidence of James Madison University's recognition of the importance of STEM to the country and of the University's very strong programs in STEM fields. This program represents a serious commitment to students who, in turn, are serious about excelling in STEM areas and making a difference in the world.

Eligible students are encouraged to apply prior to notice of their acceptance to James Madison University.

Scholarship Criteria

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the Second Century Scholars program:

- GPA of 3.75 or higher (performance in science, technology and mathematics courses will receive additional consideration)
- Demonstrated interest and commitment to study in a STEM area
- Declaration of a major in a designated STEM area (*Eligible majors are: Biology, Biophysical Chemistry, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth Science, Engineering, Geographic Science, Geology, Intelligence Analysis, Integrated Science and Technology, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics*)

Application Instructions

First read the [Instructions for Applicants](#) page (below). Using this page as a guide, fill out ALL information in the online [SCS Application](#). NOTE: It is the responsibility of the applying student to provide their reference with all the information necessary so that a letter of reference is emailed to SCS@jmu.edu by the Feb 19th deadline.

Instructions for Applicants:

Filling out your Application

Below is an editable PDF version of the online form to help you prepare your application. **You are strongly encouraged to use this form prior to filling out the online application.** This will provide you time to edit your essay and proofread all of your answers for correctness. Save this form, and when you are ready copy/paste your content directly into the online application.

Please check carefully to make sure all of your written text was transferred as you intended!

Please keep your filled-in editable PDF form in case there is an issue with your online application submission.

Letter of Reference

It's the applicant's responsibility to ensure the reference is contacted, agrees/is willing to write on the applicant's behalf, and submits their letter directly to SCS@jmu.edu by the application deadline. The reference should be an educator, mentor, or person with STEM discipline expertise that can speak as to why the applicant would be a strong candidate for the STEM Second Century Scholarship program. **NOTE: The impact of the reference letter is greatly strengthened if the applicant does not see the contents of the letter.** Reference letters must be signed (hand or official electronic signature). Use of institutional/company letterhead and saved in PDF format are both preferred, although not strictly required.

Application

The following fields will ask you for personal and contact information.

First name:

Middle name:

Last name:

Address 1:

Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip:

Email:

Phone:

Parent or Guardian Email Address:

The following fields will ask for some academic information. We will also receive your full JMU application, including test scores and GPA, from the admissions office.

High School:

High school address:

Your guidance/college counselor:

Your selected major:

Please list any secondary majors here:

Please list any minors here:

Instructions for Reference Letter from an Educator: Applicant: Please contact a teacher, instructor or another educator who can write on your behalf and attest to why you are a strong candidate for the JMU STEM Second Century Scholarship. It is preferred that the letter of recommendation be written on school or institutional letterhead, be signed by the letter writer, and not be shared with the applicant. The Letter of Reference should be sent by the reference (not the applicant) directly to SCS@jmu.edu with the email title including the terms "Reference Letter" and the applicant's name.

Reference Name:

Reference Title (i.e. math teacher, club leader):

Reference place of work (i.e. name of school or organization):

Reference email:

Reference phone:

Short Essay: Please describe why you wish to pursue a degree and career in your selected STEM field (1800 character limit):

Activities: Please list previous experiences that prepared you for study in a STEM field (1800 character limit):