

Unite Q&A

1. Describe the Unite program and the students it aims to serve. How is Unite unique in what it offers?

Unite is a pre-collegiate summer program for high school students from groups historically underserved and underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

The program is designed to give students the opportunity to:

- Gain a better understanding of the real-world applications of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;
- Overcome negative attitudes and perceptions they may have about cultural, social, and other barriers to STEM studies and careers;
- Gain confidence in their ability to participate in engineering and other STEM activities;
- Engage in activities that promote collaboration and problem solving in a team environment; and
- Be better prepared to pursue engineering and STEM in college and, ultimately, in future careers.

2. What is the TSA's involvement in the program?

Unite is administered by the [Technology Student Association \(TSA\)](#), a national non-profit organization of middle and high school students engaged in STEM.

TSA is a member of the [Army Educational Outreach Program \(AEOP\) Consortium](#). The consortium is comprised of a group of education organizations that provide and/or oversee STEM programs designed to support the goals and mission of the AEOP.

3. How do students apply? Is there a fee?

Students apply directly to a university/institution site with a Unite program. There is no fee for a student to apply to a program, nor are there any costs for a student to participate in a program.

4. Where is the program held?

Programs are held at university sites across the nation and in Puerto Rico that are awarded Unite funding. A [2018-2019 Unite Request for Proposal \(RFP\)](#) was released in early October 2017. Institutions that submit a proposal (deadline, December 8, 2018) will be notified of award or non-award in January 2019.

5. Are you looking for more sites? What are the requirements, and how could a possible site sponsor apply?

Since 2018 is a Unite RFP year, any potential university/institution may apply. Unite program requirements – as well as proposal submission requirements – are contained in the [2018-2019 Unite RFP](#).

6. Does each site offer a unique program? How could offering the Unite program benefit a particular site?

Each university site must have an existing STEM program on campus. Unite funding should supplement that program with additional STEM curriculum, STEM activities/field trips, exposure to STEM career areas and STEM professionals, etc. Sites that are awarded funding must meet universal Unite program requirements; however, while adhering to those requirements each site also has the flexibility to design a program to best meet the needs of the population to be served. Having a Unite program on campus enhances the reach of a site to a local community or targeted population and enriches the offerings of the institution.

7. Is there anything else you would like to share about the program? Where could readers find more information?

For more information about Unite, or the Unite RFP, contact Hillary Lee, the Unite Program Administrator, via email at hlee@tsaweb.org, or by phone at 888/860-9010.