

## Unite Sharpens STEM Career Focus for Students Across the Country

**Reston, VA**—In the summer of 2019, about 400 high school students gathered at [Unite](#) sites on 19 university campuses across the United States and Puerto Rico to learn more about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) higher education and careers. Unite has been administered for seven years by the [Technology Student Association \(TSA\)](#) on behalf of the [Army Education Outreach Program \(AEOP\)](#). The annual four-to-six week program helps historically underserved high school students:

- learn from college students, faculty, and other professionals about STEM
- gain confidence in their abilities to participate in STEM activities
- solve problems through teamwork
- apply STEM to the real world
- examine and pursue STEM majors and careers



At Texas Southern University—in addition to featuring industry workshops and rigorous hands-on challenges this summer, Unite “added an air of mystery to our programming,” revealed Marcia Robin-Stoute, engineering instructor. “During one of our field trips, Unite participants visited a forensics lab for an in-depth look at the role of forensic scientists/engineers in law enforcement.”

[Montana Tech’s Unite program](#) caught the attention of television news. Amy Verlanic, executive director of the university’s Institute for Educational Opportunities, told a reporter that Unite gives students hands-on experience in engineering and other STEM fields via research in a college environment. “It’s really about having them forecast their future and cement their dreams for a college education,” she explained.

Summer 2019 Unite sites included:

- Alabama State University
- Fayetteville State University, NC
- Florida State University
- Harris-Stowe State University, MO
- Jackson State University, MS
- Marshall University, WV
- Michigan Tech
- Montana Tech
- Morgan State University, MD
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Savannah State University, GA
- Texas Southern University
- University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
- University of Iowa
- University of Nevada
- University of New Mexico
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras
- Virginia Tech

Participants may apply beginning in February 2020 for the summer 2020 Unite program. Learn more at <https://www.usaeop.com/program/unite/> or contact Hillary Lee at [hlee@tsaweb.org](mailto:hlee@tsaweb.org).