

Shiley School of Engineering STEP Program

STEP Year-Long Academic Success Program

The National Science Foundation's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program (STEP) seeks to increase the number of students receiving degrees in established or emerging fields within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The Shiley School of Engineering, in partnership with the National Science Foundation STEP grant, offers a year-long academic success program aimed at increasing retention of first and second-year engineering students by helping students complete their degree on time and explore strategies for success in the classroom. Throughout the year, students will participate in 1:1 meetings with the STEP counselor and attend workshops focused on topics such as study strategies, effective writing, diversity in engineering, and career development.

Participants in the program will:

- Learn about how to get caught up in their degree
- Develop personal goals and discuss their academic progress with the STEP counselor
- Get connected with campus resources
- Participate in workshops and activities designed to promote academic and professional development

First-year students who choose to participate in the year-long STEP program will be eligible for the School of Engineering's Summer Scholars Program. Second-year students who participate in the year-long STEP program will be eligible for a tuition stipend for UP summer courses.

STEP Summer Scholars Program

In conjunction with the STEP program, the Shiley School of Engineering offers a Summer Scholars Program for freshman STEP participants preparing to enter their sophomore year.

During the eight-week program, students take two courses and participate in numerous workshops and field trips geared towards career discernment and professional development.

Program Objectives:

- Help students get ahead in their degree progress
- Provide academic workshops and industry field trips that will expand students' understanding of the engineering field and facilitate their professional development
- Give students the opportunity to explore their own career interests and build relationships with the engineering community

Program Contact:
Caitlin Cairncross
STEP Counselor
caimcro@up.edu
503-943-7612



“The most helpful part of the STEP program is being able to talk openly about my progress and get advice on what steps I should take or what direction I should go.”

-STEP Participant

“The STEP program helped me confide in my choice to major in engineering.”

-STEP Participant