



VENTURES SCHOLARS PROGRAM

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

OUR MISSION:

The Ventures Scholars Program identifies, recognizes, mentors, and supports students from underrepresented backgrounds and helps them pursue math, science and technology-based education and careers.

An Important National Problem:

- **Students of color** continue to be underrepresented in degree attainment. In 2004, they earned 22.3% of all bachelor's degrees awarded, however, they accounted for more than 28% of all undergraduates.
- **Every year underrepresented minorities** enter undergraduate engineering and science curricula; however, they represent less than five percent of the recipients for advanced degrees in engineering and science.
- **Hispanics, African Americans, Native Americans, and Pacific Islanders** represent almost 30 percent of the total population, but are markedly underrepresented as students, researchers, and academicians in the physical, chemical, biological, and health sciences. During the last decade, representation of these minorities in science has increased, but even today, they receive only six percent of the doctorates awarded annually in biology.



Scholars through mailings, email contacts, and college fairs to further establish communication channels between Ventures Scholars and admissions officers.

Ventures Scholars receive a certificate to recognize their achievement. Their names are provided to their high schools and to local media so that they can be honored at awards ceremonies and given visibility in their communities.

The Ventures Scholars Program Solution:

The Ventures Scholars Program (VSP) is a national resource that helps increase the number of underrepresented and first-generation college-bound students who pursue math, science and technology education, and, ultimately, careers in related professions.

Starting in high school, students who express an interest in math or science, demonstrate academic excellence, and perform well on national standardized examinations are invited to become Ventures Scholars.

Ventures Scholars are offered a range of free services to help them better connect to enrichment programs, scholarships, internships and other resources. Over 150 college and university members, including many selective institutions across the country, reach out to Ventures

After Ventures Scholars move on to college, they are invited to remain part of the Ventures Scholars Program network. Undergraduate Ventures Scholars are invited to utilize education and career planning resources offered by graduate and professional schools, and professional association members. The undergraduate Ventures Scholars have become an invaluable source of advice and mentoring for high school Ventures Scholars as they seek admission to and attend college.

The Ventures Scholars Program provides a variety of communication tools, largely through its Web site, email newsletters, and targeted emails to help Ventures Scholars learn about educational resources, summer jobs and internships, and career opportunities. Networking message boards provide opportunities for new Ventures Scholars to contact and seek guidance from Ventures Scholars now in college or, eventually, in the workforce.

The Ventures Scholars Program, a program of Ventures In Education, Inc (VIE)—a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity—is based on an earlier, more narrowly defined prototype created in 1990, the Minorities In Medicine (MIM) Program. The MIM Program played a significant role in increasing the number of minority college graduates prepared for admission to medical schools.

In 1999, the MIM Program transitioned to the Ventures Scholars Program and its mission was expanded to increase the number of underrepresented students pursuing career pathways, not only in medicine, but in the allied health professions, engineering, science, mathematics, and technology. *For additional information, please contact Amy Baez, Alumni Marketing Coordinator.*

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH VENTURES SCHOLARS AND SHAPE YOUR CLASS

The Ventures Scholars Program (VSP) collaborates with the College Board and ACT to identify students who meet specific academic requirements and career interests.

Over 20,000 high achieving underrepresented and/or first-generation high school students, from 50 states, have accepted the invitation to become Ventures Scholars.

Students have expressed an interest in biological and life sciences, computer and information sciences, engineering, health sciences and services, mathematics, and the physical sciences.

Over 50% of the parents/guardians of Ventures Scholars have provided their email addresses.

Over 1,000 guidance counselors have registered with the Ventures Scholars Program to nominate students to the pathway and to access additional information from member institutions and professional associations.

VENTURES SCHOLARS PROGRAM SERVICES

VENTURES SCHOLAR DATABASES

Member institutions receive a comprehensive database of High school students who meet suggested academic requirements as well as those who do not meet requirements, but express an interest in math and science. When Ventures Scholars graduate, they are invited to continue free membership. You have access to the database of undergraduate Ventures Scholars, too.

VSP ONLINE CHAT AND FORUM CENTER

The VSP E-Dialogue Center provides member institutions with multiple opportunities to use the forum and organize chat discussions with high school Ventures Scholars. Member institutions are also invited to use online chats to communicate with parents and guidance counselors nationwide.

TARGETED EMAILS TO VENTURES SCHOLARS

VSP will deliver e-messages about your open houses, receptions, campus visit days, special events, and scholarship opportunities. Send emails to Ventures Scholars, guidance counselors, and parents/guardians nationwide.

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH HIGH SCHOOLS

Admissions officers can insert the CEEB code of a high school and download information about Ventures Scholars at any high school nationwide. Guidance counselors are invited to nominate students who meet suggested academic requirements as well as students who might not meet suggested academic requirements, but have an interest in math and science.

VENTURES SCHOLARS PROGRAM WEBSITE HIGHLIGHTS

A customized profile page about each member institution will be included on the VSP Website. Profiles will include salient points about the institution, a contact person at the institution, academic requirements, scholarships, math and science majors, summer enrichment activities, research opportunities, and more.

VENTURES SCHOLAR INQUIRY FORMS

Ventures Scholars can expand on their academic and extra-curricular activities and use the VSP inquiry form to share accomplishments with member colleges. VSP will track Ventures Scholars who complete the personal profile forms and provide colleges with this database.





VENTURES SCHOLARS PROGRAM

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Today's Date _____

Institution and/or Organization Name _____

Name of Director of Admissions _____
(for higher education institutions)

Name of Primary Contact Person _____

Title of Primary Contact Person _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____

Website Address _____

Email Address _____

Arranging a Phone Meeting

- Yes, I am interested in arranging a phone meeting to discuss the Ventures Scholars Program. A suggested day and time is _____.

Annual Membership – Undergraduate Institution

- \$1,500 – Undergraduate Institution
 \$1,500 – Graduate Institution
 \$1,000 – Professional Associations and Organizations

Special Offer!
Ask about our Bundle Package: Undergraduate & Graduate Membership
212-566-2522 Ext 122

Method of Payment

- Check (payable to *Ventures in Education, Inc.* and enclosed with this application)
 Send Invoice
 Credit Card (complete the *VSP Credit Card Payment Authorization Form*)

Please return this form:

via mail:

Ventures Scholars Program
c/o Ventures in Education, Inc.
15 Maiden Lane, Suite 200
New York, New York 10038

via fax:

(212) 566-2536

or online:

<http://www.venturescholar.org/aboutus/institutionalApplication.php>

Office Use Only

Received Application: _____

Date Payment Received: _____



Ventures In Education, Inc. • 15 Maiden Lane, Suite 200 • New York, NY 10038
1 (800) 94-SMART • FAX (212) 566-2536 • www.venturescholar.org

VSP CREDIT CARD PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION FORM

To make a credit card payment complete the information below and fax to 212-566-2536 or mail to the above address:

Institution/Organization
Name: _____

Invoice Number: _____

Cardholder Name: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Address on file: _____

Please choose one: Visa MasterCard Discover AMEX

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ / _____ Amount \$ _____

Verification Code: _____

Signature

Date

****The application fee is non-refundable and nontransferable.****

For Office Use Only

TID: _____

Payment Approved By: _____ Date: _____

Affix Receipt Stamp Here:

VENTURES SCHOLARS PROGRAM RESOURCES FOR MEMBER UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOLS

Resource	Explanation
VSP Action Plan	The Ventures Scholars Program welcomes the opportunity to develop an action plan to help members share and communicate with target populations. Action plans are usually developed in the summer before the recruitment season begins in the fall.
VSP Web Site and Member Institution Profile Form	<p>Member institutions will be provided a member profile page where institution information is highlighted on the VSP website. The profile will include a direct link to institution website and display the contact information of the website contact, a point person to receive inquiries and communicate with Ventures Scholars. Members should periodically update the institution's profile page to include up-to-date, detailed links to open houses, summer and enrichment programs, institutional scholarships, Ventures-specific scholarships (for those who matriculate), fee waivers, and Early Decision/Early Action plans.</p> <p>To view Member Listing page, please go to http://www.venturescholar.org/portals</p> <p>To update your information on the VSP Web Site, log into member account at http://www.venturescholar.org/ with your username and password.</p>
VSP Database of High School Ventures Scholars	<p>Consortium institutions are provided with an account for members to access databases and electronic tools by logging into http://www.venturescholar.org/ with username and password. Institution accounts can hold up to eight member contacts to utilize the account. From the account, members can access the databases of Ventures Scholars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>High School Database</u> Consortium members receive the database of over 11,000 high school Ventures Scholars, high-achieving, underrepresented students or first-generation college bound students. ▪ <u>High School Database Plus</u> This optional database includes approximately 200 students that have met all the program requirements, however, did not meet the standardized test minimum. Students in the Database Plus had to be nominated by their high school guidance counselor for having academic potential. <p>For demographics, go to http://www.venturescholar.org/hs/demographics.php.</p>
VSP Student Inquiry Form Database	High School Ventures Scholars are invited to complete a member institution's inquiry form. Once the student completes the inquiry form, the information is stored in the HS Student Inquiry Report. Members can download and send information to this targeted group.

<p>Targeted Emails to Ventures Scholars</p> <p>(E-Minders System)</p>	<p>Consortium institutions can share information about programs, events, summer research opportunities, scholarships and more. When developing an action plan, we encourage members to think about targeted emails/e-minders that would be delivered to Ventures Scholars and contribute to our monthly newsletters sent to our high school scholars.</p> <p>Members can send targeted emails using the E-Minders System found in their account. Members can use the system to send emails by geographic region, high school graduation date, gender, ethnicity, and more. The system also keeps a running record of the emails sent to targeted populations. As part of the E-Minder System, the institution's inquiry form can be included for students to complete for specific programs at your institution.</p>
<p>Access List of Students, by High School</p>	<p>This tool will allow members to search for Ventures Scholars by their high school CEEB code. Useful for when members would like to connect with a high school in a specific geographic area or are planning a visit to a metro area and would like to access a list of Ventures Scholars within a given distance to invite to an information session or to conduct personal interviews.</p>
<p>Guidance Counselor and Educator Advisor Database.</p>	<p>The Ventures Scholars Program encourages guidance counselors, educators, and community-based organization advisors to register. Member institutions can download this database and send information to this targeted group.</p> <p>Please take time to encourage counselors, educators, and advisors to register with the Ventures Scholars Program. Once registered, counselors can nominate students to the program and manage list of Ventures Scholars at their high school. For more information, go to http://www.venturescholar.org/counselors/index.html</p>
<p>VSP E-Dialogue Center (services for the "YouTube" Generation)</p>	<p>Member institutions have individual online forums and chat rooms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Forum</u> High School and Undergraduate Ventures Scholars are invited to pose questions on the member institution's forum, which acts as both an online bulletin board, as well as posts discussion threads. When a question is submitted, the system will send an automatic notification to members email. To see forums, go to https://www.venturescholar.org/forum/index.php ▪ <u>Chat</u> Member institutions can use the online chat room for recruitment, yield, or learning activities. Help Ventures Scholars learn about math and science programs, preparing for college, completing the application, parent completion of the FAFSA, and more. Invite undergraduate Ventures Scholars to participate in e-chats to answer student life questions. Inform guidance counselors of the latest policy changes at your institution. Member institutions can host future chats, track registrants for scheduled chat, view chat transcript of past discussions and receive feedback from registrants. To see chat rooms, https://www.venturescholar.org/login/chatlist.php

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