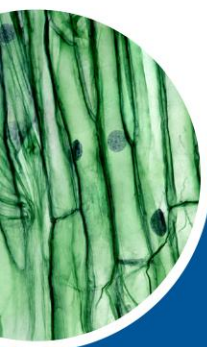




S-STEM Resource & Evaluation Center (REC)

2026 S-STEM Scholars & PI Meeting Know Before You Go Information Session

September 15, 2026
3:00-4:00 p.m. ET



NSF AWARD #2224093: AAAS-NSF S-STEM
Resource & Evaluation Center

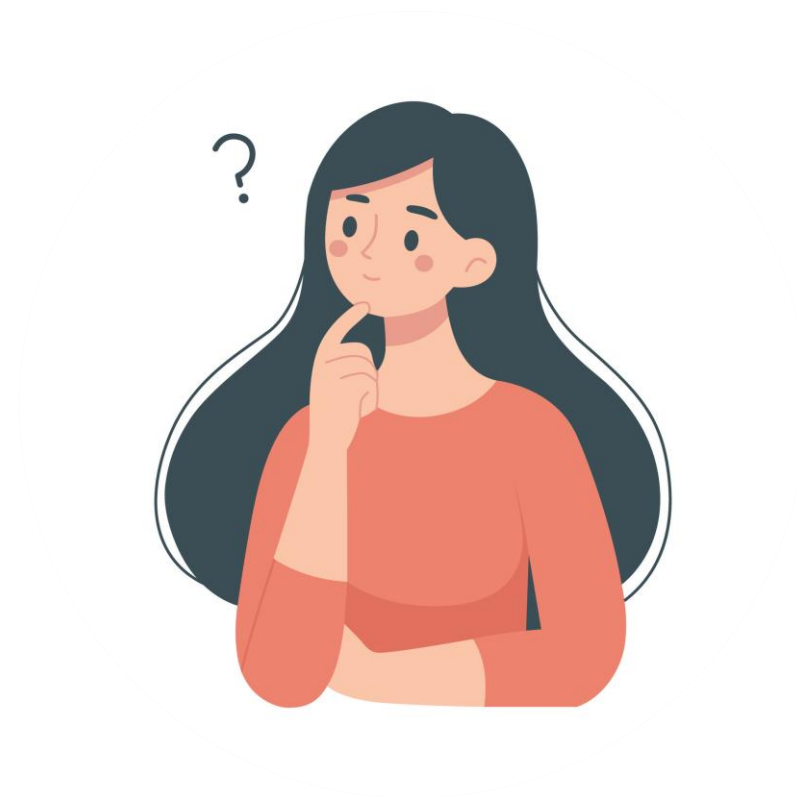
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Who is with us today?

In the chat...

please introduce yourself!

- Provide your name and institution
- What's one thing you're excited about?
- What's one thing you want to know more about?



Housekeeping



Please type your questions in the “Q&A” box at any time and “upvote” questions that are of interest to you.



Today’s slides and recording will be posted on the event page of the S-STEM REC website.



Click the "Live Transcript/CC" icon to access closed captioning.



Contact Jamila Blake in the chat or at jblake@aaas.org for technology questions or issues

Today's Agenda

I. Meeting Agenda

II. Stipend Cards & Reimbursements

III. Travel Tips & Navigating DC

IV. Meeting Norms & Expectations

V. Networking Tips

VI. Q&A

AAAS S-STEM Resources & Evaluation Center (REC)

The [S-STEM REC](#) seeks to cultivate a network of S-STEM stakeholders and promote the exchange of ideas, resources, opportunities, and knowledge related to the effective strategies and practices to increase the number of talented low-income students obtaining degrees in STEM and entering the STEM workforce.

AAAS S-STEM REC works to:



Increase the effectiveness of the S-STEM Portfolio



Build the capacity of S-STEM Network Programs



Build the capacity of S-STEM Scholars



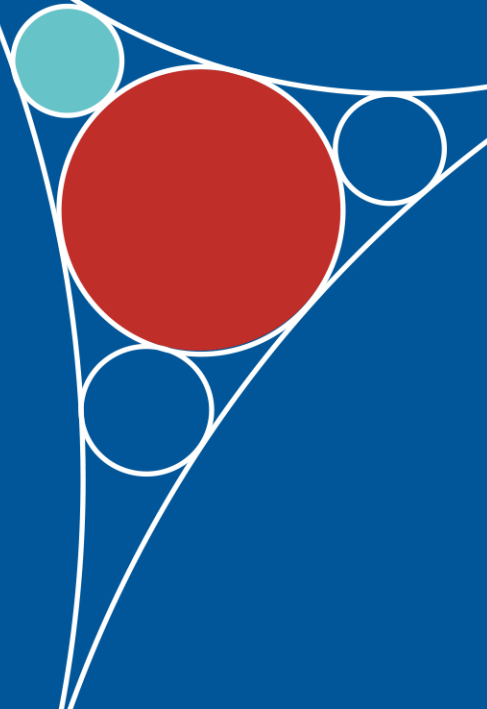
This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) under Grant No. DUE-2224093. Any opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NSF.

2026 S-STEM Scholars & PI Meeting

October 9-11, 2026

Washington, DC

Washington Hilton



Meeting Objectives

- Connect with the S-STEM community & potential employers and/or graduate school programs
- Explore diverse STEM career pathways
- Engage in professional and career development workshops & activities
- Learn about opportunities & programs that may be a good fit for you
- Present your work at a professional meeting
- Inquire about your academic and career related questions
- Experience Washington, DC

Agenda Highlights – October 9



Registration	11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET
Professional Headshots	11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. & 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. ET
Scholar Orientation	4:00 – 4:45 p.m. ET
Opening Plenary with Dinner Featured Speaker: Quinton Smith, University of California, Irvine	5:00 – 7:00 p.m. ET
STEM Connections Night	7:00 – 9:00 p.m. ET

Agenda Highlights – October 10



Breakfast Plenary

8:15 – 10:00 a.m. ET

Concurrent Workshops

10:15 – 11:30 a.m. ET

Lunch Plenary

11:45 – 1:30 p.m. ET

Concurrent Workshops

1:45 – 3:00 p.m. ET

Professional Headshots

3:00 – 6:00 p.m. ET

Career & Education Fair/Poster Presentations

3:15 – 5:15 p.m. ET

Explore the City on Your Own

Agenda Highlights – October 11



Career & Education Fair/Poster Session

Breakfast Provided

8:15 – 10:15 a.m. ET

Professional Headshots

8:00 – 10:30 a.m. ET

Closing Plenary

Featured Speaker: Emily Calandrelli, The Space Gal

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ET

Meeting App - Whova



All attendees will receive an email next week with instructions on how to download and log into Whova

- Use the email associated with your registration

Whova

Posters Presentations

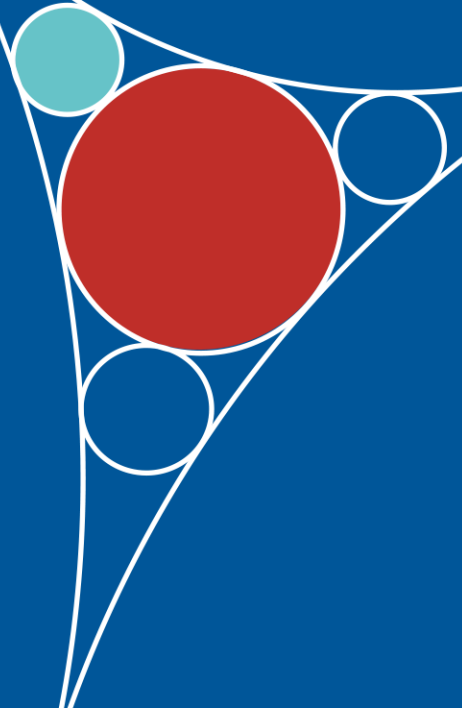
Scholars with accepted posters will be notified via email

Resources for Poster Presenters

- [Scholar Poster FAQ](#)
- Webinar Recording: [Mastering Engaging and Impactful Poster Presentations](#)



Stipend Cards & Reimbursement



Travel Support for Scholars

Scholars will receive:

- Round trip plane/train ticket
- Individual hotel room stay during meeting dates (Oct 9 & 10)
- Stipend or reimbursement for:
 - Meals not provided at the meeting
 - Ground transportation
 - Travel incidentals
 - *For local attendees: mileage & parking or public transit*



Cost Reimbursement & Stipend Cards



- [Form W-9](#) must be completed and [submitted](#) prior to receiving a travel stipend card or reimbursement
 - [See helpful video](#)
- Funds on the stipend card are yours to use as you see fit
 - Please budget appropriately to fully cover travel costs
 - Individuals receiving stipend cards cannot submit reimbursements after the meeting
 - Unused funds on the card are yours to keep
- Reimbursements for attendees driving a personal vehicle to/from the meeting will be processed after the meeting

Stipend cards

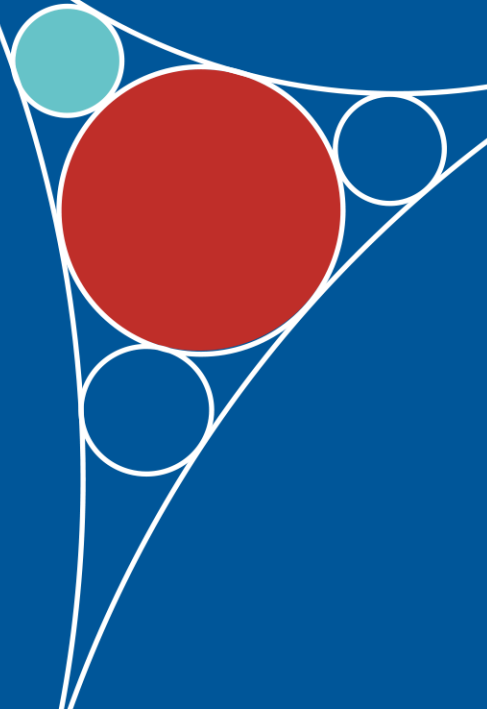
- Eligibility: Scholars who booked air/train tickets through our travel agency
- Timing: Pick up at meeting registration, can use immediately
- Amount: Pre-determined by
 - Per diem for meals not provided at the meeting
 - Estimated cost for ground transportation
 - Estimated cost for baggage fees

Reimbursement via expense report

- Eligibility: Scholars who did not pick up a stipend card (drivers, locals)
- Timing: Submit expense report after meeting, receive reimbursement within 6-8 weeks
- Amount: Individually determined by
 - Per diem for meals not provided at the meeting
 - Applicable mileage and parking
 - Other noted incidentals in compliance with AAAS travel policy

We will be sharing more detailed information about stipend cards and reimbursement closer to the meeting and in our September KBYG.

Travel & Lodging



Travel Reminders



If you encounter any issues with your flight or train ride to/from the meeting, remember to **call the AMEX travel agency**

- Keep their contact information easily accessible

AAAS AMEX Travel Agency: 1-669-210-8002

- Our company name: American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- Meeting number: 4PVA-36601
- Have your confirmation number ready

AAAS will not be able to reimburse unapproved out of pocket costs

Travel Reminders



A [REAL ID compliant](#) license or passport will be required to fly to the meeting

If you are a local attendee (within 50 miles of the venue), you are required to either drive or take public transportation to the meeting

- Remember to submit your expenses as a reimbursement after the meeting, as you will not receive a travel stipend card

Hotel Reservations

Hotel rooms are covered for up to 2 nights (Oct. 9 & 10)

- Each attendee will receive their own room

Washington Hilton

1919 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20009

The Churchill Hotel

1914 Connecticut Ave NW
Washington, DC 20009



If we have approved an early arrival or late departure due to necessary changes in travel dates, your hotel booking will reflect this

Hotel Check-In



Check-in time

- 3:00 p.m. ET at The Churchill Hotel
- 4:00 p.m. ET at the Washington Hilton
- If you arrive earlier, you may go to the hotel registration desk to see if your room is ready

Be prepared to provide a credit card for incidentals upon check-in

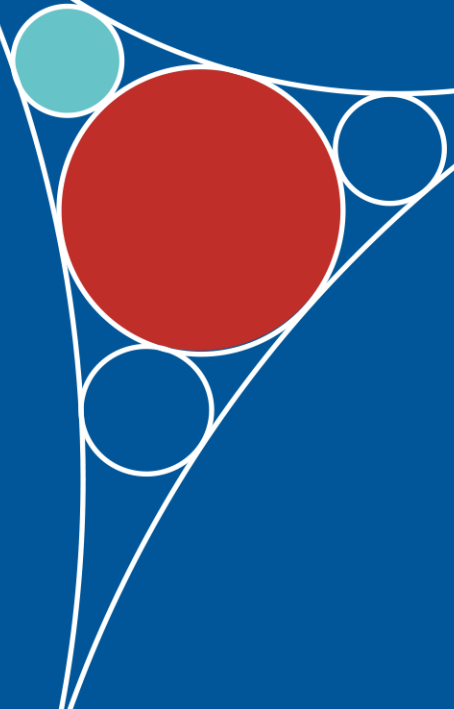
- AAAS staff can provide assistance, as needed
 - Scholars can request assistance at the S-STEM registration desk before checking in to the hotel
- AAAS cannot cover room service or other special charges

Ground Transportation

- AAAS will not provide any ground transportation
- All meeting attendees are responsible for arranging and securing transportation:
 - To/from your home to your local airport/train station
 - To/from the Washington DC area airport/train station to the hotel
- Funds provided on stipend cards should cover round-trip ground transportation costs (please budget appropriately)
 - Stipend cards will be obtained at the meeting
 - Attendees will need to pay upfront for ground transportation costs to the meeting
- Check out our [Ground Transportation Tip Sheet](#)



Meeting Norms & Expectations



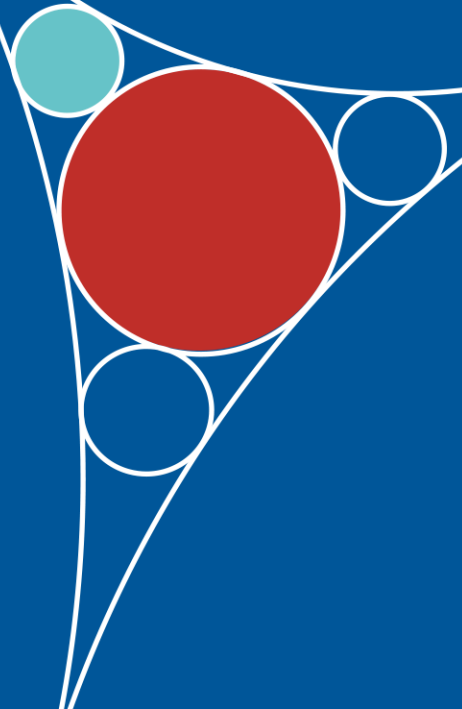
Conduct at a Professional Meeting

- Don't be afraid to say "Hi!"
- Be mindful when engaging in conversations
- Give grace to yourself & others
- Contribute to a safe and productive environment
- Be respectful and courteous to speakers & other attendees

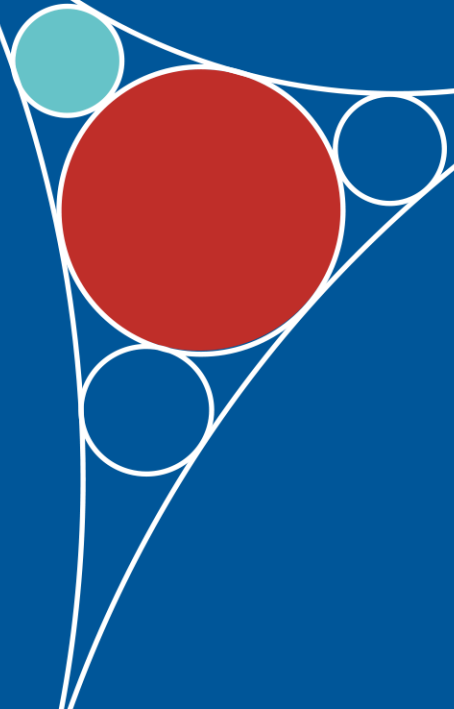
Upcoming Webinar

S-STEM Scholars Community Workshop:
From the Lab to LinkedIn: Sharing Research and
Building Connections

September 24 at 3:30 p.m. ET



Networking Tips



For S-STEM Scholars to Connect

Join the [S-STEM Scholars Community](#)!



As a member of the S-STEM Scholars Community, students and alumni will be able to:

- Be part of an inclusive, safe, and welcoming community space
- Network and build community across S-STEM programs
- Engage in meaningful discussions and professional development
- Have access to employment opportunities and S-STEM resources

Scholars & alumni can increase their engagement by becoming a [Community Catalyst](#)

- Serve as community champions for the S-STEM Scholars Community and contribute to community building, professional development, and academic and professional success of S-STEM scholars and alumni

Tips for In-Person Networking and Relationship Building



Identify a potential person or people with which you would like to make a connection or build a relationship



Set expectations (you can always revisit them)



Engage in activities for positive growth and development



Establish if and how you will continue your relationship



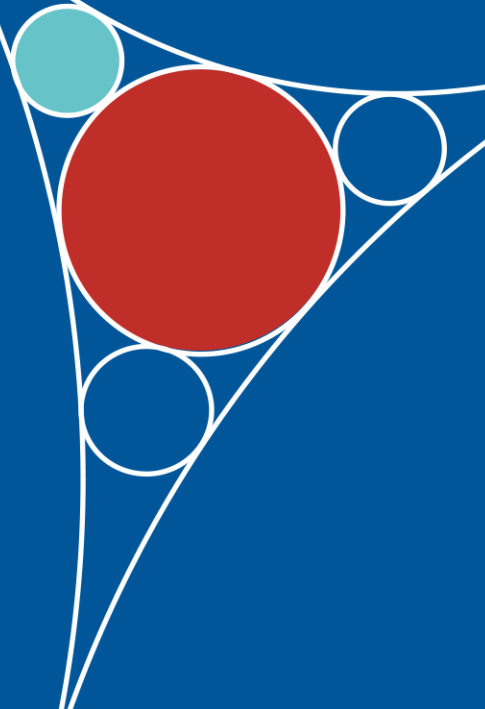
Identify commonalities & unique aspects of your lived experiences

Need to Cancel Your Registration?



In the case where you become unable to attend the meeting due to a family emergency, illness, or other unforeseen circumstance, **please notify our team as soon as possible by completing our [cancellation form](#).**

Resources & FAQs



Existing Resources

[2026 Scholars & PI Meeting Event Page](#)

[FAQ: General Meeting Information](#)

[FAQ: Driving to the Meeting](#)

[FAQ: Scholar Posters](#)

[Registration Cancellation Form](#)

[LinkedIn Scholars Community](#)

[Navigating the Career & Educations Fairs](#)

[Navigating STEM Connections Night](#)

Upcoming Resources

[Tips for Flying to the Meeting](#)

[Tips for What to Wear to the Meeting](#)

[Tips for Ground Transportation](#)

[Navigating to the Hotel](#)

[Local Restaurants](#)

[Local Attractions & Activities](#)

[Community Building](#)

Provide Your Feedback on Today's Event!

Survey Link:

<https://airtable.com/app6Nkx33aMmLRMxS/pagNL845HA9belibc/form>





Stay Connected With Us!

Explore: <https://sstemrec.aaas.org/>

Join our Mailing List: <http://eepurl.com/grH5C9>

Connect on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/csew>

Follow on Bluesky: <https://bsky.app/profile/aaascsew.bsky.social>

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Questions?



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