The Department of Science and Health Professions is accepting scholarship applications for the Bachelor of Science in Biological Science program. Applicants are required to submit the following information in order for their package to be considered:
1. Completed scholarship application form.
2. A written essay (see topic below).
3. Copy of unofficial college transcripts.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

COLLEGE CRITERIA:
For a student at AMSC to qualify for a STEM Trailblazers Merit Scholarship, the student must:
1. Be a citizen of the United States, national of the United States, or alien lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence.
2. Be enrolled as a full-time student at AMSC (a minimum of 12 credit hours) in the Biological Science program leading to baccalaureate degree.
3. Have a minimum high school cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 (First-time college students only) or have a minimum AMSC GPA of 3.0 and have attained sophomore, junior or senior standing at AMSC (Non-first-time college students).

Eligibility Criteria for Recipients
First-Time Recipients
For an STEM Trailblazers Merit Scholarship recipient to remain eligible from one semester to the next, the student must:
• Remain enrolled full-time.
• Remain in good academic standing minimum GPA of 3.0.

Renewing Recipients
Scholarships will be renewable each semester for a total of eight (8) semesters when retention criteria are met. To meet these criteria, a student must:
• Maintain at least a GPA of 3.0.
• Maintain full-time student status.
• Continue to remain a Biological Science major.
• Continue to demonstrate financial need.
• Make satisfactory academic progress toward his/her major as evidenced by enrolling in the recommended sequence of courses and/or earning a “C” or better in courses required for the major.
• Participate in all program activities associated with the scholarship.

A. Application Process
All students interested in the STEM Trailblazers Merit Scholarship will be required to submit an application packet that provides evidence that they meet the selection criteria. The application deadline will be August 30 and December 1 each academic year. A student must submit the following application materials:
• Completed STEM Trailblazers Merit Scholarship application form, which will include the applicant’s name, contact information, date of birth, and demographic information.
• Completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
• High school transcript (first-time college students only).
• ACT/SAT scores (first-time college students only).
• AMSC transcript (current AMSC students).
• Brief essay of 1000 words or less discussing the applicant’s science abilities; volunteer work, STEM club affiliations, strengths and weaknesses, and aspirations for a STEM career.
• Letter of recommendation from a faculty member or high school teacher.
B. Renewal Process
All students interested in the renewal of the STEM Trailblazers Merit Scholarship will be required to submit materials that provide evidence that they meet the renewal criteria. All materials will be due **August 30 and December 1**. A student must submit the following materials:

- Completed STEM Trailblazers Merit Scholarship renewal form, which will include the applicant’s name, contact information, date of birth, and demographic information.
- Completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Current copy of their AMSC transcript.

**QUALIFYING COMPETITIVE FACTORS:**

- Official cumulative GPA.
- An essay (500 to 1,000 words) discussing applicant’s science abilities, volunteer work, STEM club affiliations, strengths and weaknesses, and aspirations are for a STEM career.

Failure to address the topic of financial need disqualifies the essay. The essay must be at least 500 words, typed and doubled-spaced. Essays will be rated on content, depth, grammar, organization, and originality. Applicants will receive written notification of the status of their application.

**Rubric for evaluating essay:**
Your essay will be assessed based upon a 25 point rubric. Below you will find categories that will be assessed and their point value. Those essays that fail to follow the guidelines for the rubric will be disqualified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Paragraph Body</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Opening</td>
<td>5 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Body (3 Paragraphs)</td>
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<td>• Closing</td>
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<td>Grammar</td>
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<td>• Punctuation</td>
<td>5 pts.</td>
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<td>• Spelling</td>
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<td>• Sentence Structure</td>
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<td>Originality</td>
<td>5 pts.</td>
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<td>Clear Thesis and or Topic Sentence</td>
<td>5 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address the topic</td>
<td>5 pts.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**For additional information contact:**
**Dr. Alvin Harmon**
Head of the Department of Science and Health Professions
McMillan Academic Sciences Building
Suite 216
Phone: 404-756-4056
aharmon@atlm.edu
PLEASE PRINT

Today’s Date:                        Student ID#

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Last name:   First Name:   Gender:   Marital Status:  
               Male   Single   Married   Divorced  
               Female  Separated Widow/er

Local Address:     Street:  City:  State:  Zip:  
Telephone (Home):  Telephone (Mobile):  
E-mail Address:

Permanent Address: Street:  City:  State:  Zip:  
Telephone (Home):

Birth Date:  
            Age:

RACE:  
       American Indian / Alaskan Native  
       Asian / Pacific Islander  
       Black / African American  
       Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander  
       Caucasian / White Hispanic / Latino

U.S. Citizen/Permanent Resident
Yes   No

If no, specify country of citizenship:

STUDENT CLASSIFICATION:

Freshman   Sophomore   Junior   Senior

AS. in Biology   B.S. in Biological Science

CURRENT MAJOR:

Please list earned in the following courses.
1. BIOL 1107  
2. BIOL 1108  
3. CHEM 1211  
4. CHEM 1212  
5. MATH 1113  
Cumulative GPA:

SCHOLASTIC RECORD:

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Please list school, community, church, or organizational activities:
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Please list honors, awards, and other achievements:
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Applicant’s Signature ____________________         Date ____________________
STEM Trailblazers Merit Scholarship
SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDATION FORM
(Please type or print legibly)

To the applicant: Please complete the top section only and give this form to an instructor, advisor, counselor, principal, or someone who is aware of the probability of your success in the Bachelor of Science in Biological Science program at Atlanta Metropolitan State College. Please ask that person to send the completed form to:

Atlanta Metropolitan State College
Division of Science, Mathematics and Health Professions
ATTN: STEM Trailblazers Merit Scholarship Committee
1630 Metropolitan Parkway, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30310

I. Student Information
Name ____________________________________________________ AMSC ID No. ____________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________________
Phone No. ________________________________________________ Email Address __________________________________

I waive __ do not waive __ my right to have access to this completed Recommendation Form and any attachments.

Applicant’s Name: ___________________________________________ Date ______________________________

II. Evaluation Form. To be completed by the individual providing the recommendation and sent before the specified deadline to the address above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Skills</th>
<th>Outstanding</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>No Knowledge</th>
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<td>Punctuality</td>
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<td>Positive attitude</td>
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<td>Good attendance</td>
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<td>Takes responsibility for work (including mistakes)</td>
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<td>Dresses appropriately for situation</td>
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<th>Social Skills</th>
<th>Outstanding</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>No Knowledge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listens and takes direction well</td>
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<td>Collaborates well with others</td>
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<td>Team player</td>
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<td>Open to criticism</td>
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<td>Shows appreciation</td>
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<td>Honors diversity</td>
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<tr>
<th>Work Skills</th>
<th>Outstanding</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>No Knowledge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completes work on time</td>
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<td>Meets and/or exceeds classroom/workplace expectations</td>
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| Growth                                   |             |           |      |         |               |              |
| Willing to learn new skills              |             |           |      |         |               |              |
| Volunteers to take on new tasks/projects |             |           |      |         |               |              |
| Asks for help when appropriate           |             |           |      |         |               |              |
| Finds ways to overcome/compensate for challenges or personal weaknesses |       |           |      |         |               |              |
III. **Narrative.** Please respond to the following questions.

a. What are the individual’s strengths and how will they contribute to future success in college and the workforce?

b. How has the individual demonstrated an ability to overcome challenges?

c. Do you have anything additional to add about why are you recommending this individual for this scholarship?