About the program

The ASPIRE scholars and mentoring program was designed to increase the number of underrepresented minority individuals completing masters and doctoral programs. During the academic year scholars work one-on-one with a faculty mentor, as well as; build relationships with peer mentors to strengthen and facilitate a smooth adjustment to the academic rigor of graduate education and foster research initiatives.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote and grow a culture of learning excellence in graduate education that results in minority scholars, researchers, and practitioners. The ASPIRE scholars program delivers targeted engagement workshops that integrate accelerated and focused learning opportunities that support scholars in acquiring the knowledge and skills needed for graduate student success.

Paying For School

As part of the ASPIRE scholars contract, students receive a funding package:

- $2,000 scholarship ($750 Fall, $ 750 Spring $500 Summer)
- $600 in textbook vouchers
- Program and research incentives
Program Content:

Academic Enrichment:
- Small cohort size (allows for individual student attention)
- Personalized academic coaching and counseling

Support Services:
- Introduction to campus resources
- Development of mentoring relationships with current students and faculty

Social Engagement:
- Close and supporting ties among students and instructors
- Transition to the social and intellectual life of graduate study at Sam Houston State University

The Graduate Studies Bridge to ASPIRE scholars program provides first generation minority graduate students with mentoring and academic success programming to promote professional development and to strengthen the graduate school experience.

Applications available on the graduate studies website.

http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-studies/paying-for-school.html

For program information or application questions, please contact Dr. Stephanie Bluth in the Office of Graduate Studies