

# Questions? Reach us at: InFLOW@wef.org

## STEMpath Application

#### Important dates:

- February 8, 2024 STEMpath Info Session
- February 27, 2024 Application Closes
- March 2024 Application Reviews
- April 2024 Notifications sent to applicants and confirmations due
- September 2024 InFLOW virtual program begins.
- Oct. 6-9, 2024 WEFTEC in New Orleans, LA

#### InFLOW Webpage

About WEFTEC

<u>Words on Water Podcast -</u> <u>The InFLOW Experience</u>

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# **Introducing Future Leaders to the Water Industry!**

At the Water Environment Federation (WEF) we believe that our water workforce should reflect the communities we serve.

The WEF InFLOW (Introducing Future Leaders to Opportunities in Water) program aims to enhance diversity and inclusion in the water workforce.

This scholarship opportunity engages participants in WEF programs and events to:

- 1. Solidify their interest in working in the water sector; and
- 2. Increase probabilities for employment and long-term success working in water.

The **STEMpath Track** of WEF InFLOW includes student scholars from universities and colleges who are currently pursuing a degree in a STEM field. Through WEF InFLOW, these students are introduced to the water industry through a dual virtual and in-person program. This includes interactive networking opportunities with industry professionals and the chance to experience **WEFTEC**, the largest annual water quality event of its kind.

#### **About the Water Environment Federation**

WEF is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization of 35,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing water quality professionals around the world.

The Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC), offers water quality professionals the best in water quality education and training. In 2024 this event will feature both in-person and livestream components with nearly 200 technical sessions, workshops, mobile sessions, local facility tours and 1,000+ exhibitors, you won't want to miss!

### **University Testimonial**

"Howard University is proud to continue to collaborate with the Water Environment Federation to educate the future leaders of the water sector and prioritize the global health of the ecosystem. The program provides an opportunity for our students to experience water industry careers first-hand while researching new ways to enhance sustainability efforts in our local communities."

- Howard University President Wayne A. I. Frederick



# **Eligibility for Program**

- 1.Full-time undergraduate or graduate student at a participating School/University
- 2.Must be in your junior or senior year or a master student in Fall 2024 to apply
- 3. Majoring in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics) field (note majoring in engineering is not required)
- 4.18 years of age or olderby the time you attend WEFTEC
- 5.Represent a historically underrepresented racial and/or ethnic group. WEF defines this as those who identify as Black/African, Caribbean/West Indies, Hispanic/LatinX, Asian/Pasifika, and Native Americans/First Nations.
- 6.Experience in water is not required, but an interest in the water industry is encouraged.
- 7. Professor Sponsor
  - a.Be your University advocate and assist in communicating with other professors about potentially missing class/asking for extensions on assignments due to conference travel
  - b.Fill out a review and recommendation form
  - c. Attend an orientation with other professor sponsors to learn more about program
  - d.WEFTEC registration cost can be provided by WEF.

# Student Scholar Criteria & Responsibilities

- 1.Required to participate in online activities in September and October 2024 (See Agenda)
- 2.Required to attend annual WEFTEC 2024 in New Orleans, Louisiana from October 5-9, 2024, and fully participate in all scheduled activities
- 3. Willing to fully participate with WEF Staff, Sponsors, & Members before and after WEFTEC 2024
- 4. Responsibly represent their School/University during WEF InFLOW events and while in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 5.Follow Louisiana State and Federal Laws, including not consuming alcohol if under 21.





"The 2023 InFLOW Program has been a rewarding journey filled with learning opportunities, mentorship, and networking. I was exposed to a wide range of topics and gained insights into various aspects of the industry that I might not have encountered otherwise. InFLOW offered numerous networking opportunities, enabling me to connect with peers and professionals in the field. These connections have the potential to be a valuable asset in my future career."

#### - Jascika University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2023 InFLOW STEMpath Scholar



"Before this conference (WEFTEC), I was unsure of what I was going to do with my degree. While I was here, I got the chance to network with a lot of awesome people. I've seen the way the water industry captures others either by accident, or adopting them. Thank you WEF for embracing me with open arms and helping introduce me to the water industry! This conference helped me gain so much clarity. I am forever grateful."

- Jayla Benedict College 2021 InFLOW STEMpath Scholar

## **Past Participating Schools**

Since the start of the InFLOW in 2018, the STEMpath track has had over 130 scholars from 28 different universities complete the program. To date more than 47% of those scholars have obtained a job in the water industry!

