

2026 STEMpath Preliminary Schedule of Events

Program content designed to engage and inspire

The WEF InFLOW program is designed to introduce scholars to opportunities in the water sector and help them foster a network within the water community. The 2026 program is a combination of virtual activities to introduce scholars to the water sector and in-person events at WEFTEC 2026 in New Orleans, Louisiana. If you cannot join live, please email inflow@wef.org in advance to let us know.

Date	Event Name & Description
InFLOW STEMpath Virtual Activities (Pre-WEFTEC)	
<i>*All virtual activities are scheduled in Eastern Time with no more than 1-2 activities per week.</i>	
June TBD Zoom	InFLOW Onboarding Program Expectations Scholars will be provided with an overview of this year's WEF InFLOW STEMpath program and expectations. We will go over deadlines and program schedule.
Week of August 31 TBD Zoom	InFLOW Orientation – Introduction to WEF and InFLOW Scholars will be introduced to WEF and be provided with an overview of this year's dual WEF InFLOW STEMpath program and expectations. This session will also include an introduction to WEF's Student & Young Professional activities as well as an opportunity to network and "meet" the 2026 InFLOW cohort.
Week of September 7 TBD Zoom	Water 101 – Introduction to the Water Sector An interactive networking session with water professionals to introduce scholars to the different water focus areas and hot topics, including municipal water treatment, industrial water treatment, resource recovery, stormwater, intelligent water systems, and others.
Week of September 16 TBD Zoom	Career Paths in the Sector Scholars will have the opportunity to meet and discuss the water sector with water professionals and learn about the different career paths and opportunities in the water industry.
Week of September 14 TBD Zoom	Tips and Tricks of Networking & Getting a Job in Water Scholars will connect with corporate recruiters to learn about what they look for when hiring and how scholars can be prepared for a career in water.
Monday, September 21 TBD Zoom	WEFTEC Orientation Orientation and overview of WEFTEC 2026 in New Orleans, Louisiana. This orientation will include an overview of InFLOW events and expectations while on-site.

WEFTEC 2026 – New Orleans, Louisiana	
Date	Event Name & Description
Saturday, September 26*	Scholars arrive in New Orleans, LA, and check into their assigned shared hotel room. *Some will arrive a day earlier due to flight.
Saturday, September 26 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Location TBD	InFLOW Scholars Welcome & Onsite Orientation/Tour (Mandatory) Meet at the Convention Center to get to know your cohort, go over the plan, and learn where things are expectations
Saturday, September 26 Time TBD Location TBD	Water Leadership Institute Networking Event (Optional) Meet the 2026 WLI cohort in person and network with many people in the program and alumni.
Sunday, September 27 Morning TBD Times Water Environment Division: Rooms TBD Wastewater Division: Rooms TBD	Student Design Competition (Optional) Students from various universities representing their local WEF member associations will present their design projects in both the wastewater and water environment topic areas. The design projects are generally based on work with partner utilities local to the university. <i>Note: Will have the option to join again after the tour if wanted.</i>
Sunday, September 27 Time TBD Meet at Bus Stop Lunch provided	Tour of a local Water Resource Recovery Facility and Green Infrastructure (Mandatory) InFLOW Participants will take a tour of a local facility in New Orleans, LA to learn the ins and outs of how they treat wastewater and convert it into high quality water effluent and also tour local green infrastructure projects. We will visit the following sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none">TBD Locations
Sunday, September 27 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM Rooms TBD	Water Leadership Institute Graduation and Networking Event (Mandatory) Join the WLI to learn about all the ways to get involved with WEF, watch the graduation, meet your mentor, and network with alumni of the WLI program.
Sunday, September 27 Evening Time TBD Location TBD	InFLOW Scholars Welcome & In-Person Meet Up (Mandatory) Scholars of both tracks will have an opportunity to socialize with each other and network with sponsors and WEF Staff. Complimentary food and drinks.
Monday, September 28 – Wednesday, September 30	<i>These activities will occur throughout WEFTEC and scholars are encouraged to complete these activities during their free time.</i> <u>Activity 1: WEFTEC Bingo</u> Scholars will be presented with a bingo of professional development activities such as roaming the Exhibit Floor and meeting people from different types of companies and sectors of the water industry. <u>Activity 2: Attend Technical Sessions & Explore the Exhibit Floor</u> WEFTEC programming includes various technical sessions and pavilion presentations that offer a variety of ways to connect with the brightest minds in the water industry. The WEFTEC Exhibit Floor features more than 800 exhibitors and allows scholars to learn what is innovative and new in water quality equipment, products, and services.

	<p>Activity 3: Attend Various Evening Receptions</p> <p>Scholars are encouraged to attend various evening receptions (if invited). These evening receptions are a great way to network with members from their local Member Associations and other organizations like Students and Young Professionals and the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professionals (AEEPS).</p>
Monday, September 28 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM Great Hall A&B	WEFTEC Opening General Session (Mandatory) InFLOW participants will attend the WEFTEC Opening General Session to hear the welcoming messages from WEF Leadership, as well as the keynote speaker. InFLOW participants will have reversed seating.
Monday, September 28 10:00 AM–11:00 AM Rooms TBD	Student Chapter Meeting (Optional) Network with other student chapters, share ideas, and learn how WEF can help as you begin your professional career from the Student Activities Community, a subcommunity of the WEF Students & Young Professionals Community (SYPC). Scholars will also hear from the 2026 Student Chapter of the Year Award recipients.
Monday, September 28 11:30 AM–12:30 PM Rooms TBD	Students and Young Professional Community Meeting (Optional) Join us to learn more about WEF programs for students and young professionals. Young professionals, students, academics, mentors, and Member Association leaders are invited to attend this annual meeting at WEFTEC.
Monday, September 28 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch on your Own You will receive a lunch voucher to use at the convention center during this time.
Monday, September 28 Open 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM <i>You don't have to stay the entire time.</i> Room TBD	Student & Young Professional Career Fair (Mandatory) Scholars can network with multiple companies for potential internship or employment opportunities. The WEFTEC Career Fair includes a diverse group of companies including municipalities, industrial manufacturers, equipment providers, and consulting firms.
Tuesday, September 29 10:15 AM – 12:00 PM Room TBD	Journeys Through Water – Water Industry Giants Panel (Mandatory) Learn about working in water from several prominent leaders in the sector. These water industry leaders will share their journey in water and provide insight into how to succeed in the water industry.
Tuesday, September 29 12:15 PM – 2:00 PM Room TBD	InFLOW Closing Ceremony & Networking Event (Mandatory) Celebrate with your fellow InFLOW Scholars, sponsors, and those you have met throughout the InFLOW program at this closing session. During this session, each scholar will be recognized for completing the 2026 WEF InFLOW program. Lunch provided.
Tuesday, September 29 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Open Time at WEFTEC (Optional) Scholars can roam the exhibit floor or attend technical sessions on their own.
Wednesday, September 30	Scholars can roam the exhibit floor or attend technical sessions before departing New Orleans, LA.

Sessions of Interest (Recommendations)

TBD

See [WEFTEC program](#) for full schedule!