

**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date:** January 5, 2018

**To:** Senior High Principals, School Site Counselors, AVID  
Coordinators, Math and Science Department Chairs, Educators  
Rising Club Advisors

**Subject:** **SAN DIEGO EDUCATION FUND SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM**

**Due Date:** **February 28, 2018**

**Reference:** San Diego Education Fund (SDEF)

**Action Requested:** Discuss application process with your staff and encourage  
graduating seniors to apply for scholarships prior to the due date.

**Attachments:**

1. TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS
2. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND  
MATHEMATICS (STEM) SCHOLARSHIPS

**Brief Explanation:**

The mission of the San Diego Education Fund is to provide scholarships, mentoring, and financial aid advising to SDUSD graduates who wish to become teachers, scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians.

At SDEF, we are committed to providing scholarship and mentoring support to our Teacher and STEM scholarship recipients from their *first day in college to their undergraduate degree*. To achieve this, the SDEF awards multi-year scholarships (including teaching credential year) to outstanding low-income high school students who have graduated from and reflect the diversity in the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD).

SDEF scholarship support includes cash stipends every semester, a mentor/counselor to assist with scholastic and personal challenges, access to an emergency fund, networking opportunities with fellow scholarship recipients and education professionals.

With close to 30 years of experience in providing scholarships and mentoring support to deserving students, SDEF has demonstrated the impact of providing access to a college education for those who might have never attended. While our mission focuses on student access and success in higher education, our emphasis is on attainment, defined as completing undergraduate degrees and teaching credentials. To achieve its mission, SDEF operates three programs: 1) Teacher Scholars Program; 2) STEM Scholars Program; and, 3) Student/School Enrichment Program. Over the past ten years, SDEF has awarded \$1,000,000 in scholarships to Teacher and STEM Scholars. All Scholars come from low-income families, graduated from SDUSD, and attended college in San Diego County.

Attached are application guidelines and materials for the Future Teacher Scholarship (Attachment 1) and the STEM Scholarship Programs (Attachment 2).

The on-line SDEF Future Teacher and STEM scholarship on-line applications are available at [www.sdef.org](http://www.sdef.org). Completed application and materials must be received no later than 5:00 pm, February 28, 2018.

Questions regarding the application process should be directed to Mary Castleberry, a retired administrator who is a SDEF counselor and mentor at [marycherry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marycherry@sbcglobal.net), or 619-886-7124.

APPROVED:



Greg Ottinger  
Chief Business Officer

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