



## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What are PRIME STEM and Project BEST?

Both are federal TRiO programs designed to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants and to assist students make the transition from one level of higher education to the next.

- PRIME STEM is tailored to meet the needs of 120 students who are pursuing and will be graduating in STEM related majors: Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Health Sciences.
- The Project is tailored to meet the needs of 140 students who are pursuing a degree in any major.

### 2. What are the benefits of PRIME STEM and Project BEST?

- One-on-one tutoring
- Peer mentoring
- Faculty/staff mentoring
- Access to computers and printers
- Free access to study guides for the GRE, GMAT, MCAT, DAT and more
- Professional and cultural events
- Opportunities for leadership development
- Life management workshops
- Community of scholars on campus

### 3. Who is eligible for PRIME STEM or Project BEST

- First-generation
- Low-income
- Disabled
- U.S. citizen
- Academic Need

### 4. What is first-generation?

The term “first generation college student” means—  
(A) an individual both of whose parents did not complete a baccalaureate degree; or





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(B) in the case of any individual who regularly resided with and received support from only one parent, an individual whose only such parent did not complete a baccalaureate degree.

5. What is low-income?

The term “low-income individual” means an individual from a family whose taxable income for the preceding year did not exceed 150 percent of an amount equal to the poverty level determined by using criteria of poverty established by the Bureau of the Census.

6. How do I verify my eligibility?

- First generation is self-reported
- Low-income is verified by your tax return, income verification form, income verification by a third party (social security, TANF, SNAP, etc.)
- Disability is verified through the UCF Office of Student Accessibility Services.

7. Why do you need my Social Security number?

The federal government requires each grant recipient to (a) report on every program participant each year in its Annual Performance Report and (2) track students for up to six years. We do this by social security number.

8. How do I apply for PRIME STEM or Project BEST?

- Complete an Interest Form online or attend an Information Session
- Complete an application
- Interview with a PRIME STEM or Project BEST staff member

9. How do I know to which program I should apply: PRIME STEM or Project BEST?

- PRIME STEM is for STEM majors only.
- Project BEST is for all majors (including STEM).

10. What is advice and assistance with course selection?

It is supplemental advising. It does not replace advising provided by one of the official advising office.