OVERALL HFSV IMPACT STRATEGY

Although Latinos represent 28% of the total population in Silicon Valley, only 3% are in the STEM workforce. With 39% of the K-12 student population identified as Latino, we anticipate the challenge to continue to grow.

The Latinos in Technology Scholarship (LITS), established by the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley in 2015, is available to Latinx college juniors and seniors in good standing who are pursuing a college degree in a STEM-related field.

DIVERSIFYING THE TECH INDUSTRY

This program aims to provide financial support to Latino students to facilitate college graduation and support a robust pipeline of Latino professionals in STEM careers. The scholarship provides up to $10,000 in annual financial support for up to three years in addition to professional development and internship opportunities.

Successful metrics of our program include the graduation of all supported students, continued interest in STEM-related careers, and successful conversion of hires for a significant percentage of supported students upon completion of their degree.

We want the total number of scholars completing summer internships to be 100% and we are currently at 50%. There have been increased challenges with internships due to COVID-19. We are addressing this by strengthening our partnerships with current LITS funders. Funding is just a piece of the puzzle of this program, and the help of tech companies is necessary to make this program fully successful.

APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Must be Latino or Hispanic (defined by U.S. Census)
- Declared Major in STEM
- Graduate of a high school in the following Northern California counties: Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Marin County, Napa County, San Francisco County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, Solano County, Sonoma County and Yolo County and/or
- Graduate of a high school not in the above counties, but enrolled at a college/university within the 11 listed counties.
- Minimum cumulative college grade point average of 3.0
- Demonstrated financial need
- United States citizen or eligible noncitizen (eligible non-citizens include United States legal residents and students who have obtained Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals)
As of today, the LITS Program has supported a total of 427 students, with 80% being first-generation college students. We are proud that 42% of our scholars are female. Of that 42%, the top declared majors are Biology, Civil Engineering, and Computer Science. 114 of our 427 LITS scholars transferred to a 4-year university upon completion of community college.
Meet Our Alumni

KATALINA HUERTA

Katalina Huerta, is a first generation Latina who graduated from Whitworth University with a Bachelors degree in Health Science. She is a 2018 Latinos in Technology Scholarship recipient.

Katalina is proud to be the first on her maternal side to graduate from a 4-year university. Growing up, Katalina had a Latina pediatrician who sparked her interest in the medical field. This pediatrician would be the only Latina doctor Katalina would ever have. For this reason, Katalina strives to add to the percentage of Latinas in the medical field. Today, she works as a nurse assistant at Stanford Hospital’s Cardiology Department.

"This scholarship not only helped my family and me financially, but it also brought me one step closer to my ultimate career goal of becoming a physician assistant."

ALEXANDER VAZQUEZ

Alexander Vazquez is a first-generation Mexican-American raised in Livermore, CA who became a Latinos in Technology scholarship recipient in 2020. In May, Alexander became the first in his family to graduate from college with his Bachelors of Science in Chemical Engineering.

Today, Alexander is a proud graduate student at San Jose State University, where he is hoping to conduct research into polymer chemistry. Adjusting to grad school is a new challenge and milestone for Alexander, as he gains the opportunity to conduct his own research someday. Alexander shared that after he earns his masters he wants to work close to home and support the community that raised him.

"I was able to focus on my studies and extracurricular activities because of this scholarship. The financial support greatly assisted my journey through undergrad and my new chapter as a graduate student at San Jose State."

"For Alexander, navigating the college pathway was new and challenging but with the support of the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley he has gained the confidence to seize new educational and professional opportunities."
The Latinos in Technology Scholarship is one of the most successful programs at the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley. To date, 427 college students have received scholarships. The number of applicants who qualify for the scholarship has also increased in part due to more targeted marketing and outreach efforts at local colleges and universities.

In 2020, we awarded two cohorts of students to re-align our timeline and ensure our scholars are eligible for internships in summer time. Most tech companies in the area recruit student interns for summer in the fall semester prior.

Due to our two awarded cohorts in 2020, we awarded less scholarships in 2021 in efforts to stabilize funding. Our goal is to award as many scholarships as possible in the next few years by steadily increasing our funding levels.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all recruitment, informational workshops, and student outreach was conducted via online learning platforms in collaboration with several community colleges and universities in the area.
Since the program started in 2016, 258 scholars have graduated from a 4-year university. We are expecting 124 scholars to graduate within the next two years.
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED BY INSTITUTION

2016 - 2021 Breakdown

San Jose State University 98
UC Santa Cruz 66
UC San Diego 9
UC Davis 26
UC Berkeley 31
San Francisco State University 39
Stanford University 12
Cal Poly State University 17
Santa Clara University 33
UCS

45 different colleges & universities

ADDITIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- Boston University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Chico State University
- Connecticut College
- CSU Fullerton
- CSU Long Beach
- CSU Los Angeles
- CSU Monterey Bay
- CSU San Marcos
- Denison University
- Dominican University of CA
- Duke University
- Fresno State University
- Harvey Mudd College
- Humboldt State University
- Lehigh University
- Leland Stanford Jr. University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Minnesota State University
- Mills College
- Purdue University
- Saint Mary’s College
- Samuel Merritt University
- San Diego State University
- Sonoma State University
- Southern New Hampshire University
- State University
- UC Irvine
- University of Phoenix
- University of Portland
- University of Redlands
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California
- Whitworth University

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From the 427 scholars, the top four declared majors are Mechanical Engineering at 13%, Computer Science at 12%, Civil Engineering at 8%, and Biology at 8%.

Majors such as Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, and Mathematics are the second most popular.

### 2016 - 2021 Breakdown

**SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED BY DECLARED MAJORS**

From the 427 scholars, the top four declared majors are Mechanical Engineering at 13%, Computer Science at 12%, Civil Engineering at 8%, and Biology at 8%.

Majors such as Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, and Mathematics are the second most popular.

### ADDITIONAL MAJORS

- Accounting
- Aerospace Engineering
- Applied Math
- Applied Physics
- Art & Design Games
- Astrophysics
- Aviation
- Biochemical Engineering
- Bioengineering
- Biological Sciences
- Biomedical Engineering
- Biotechnology
- Cellular & Molecular Biology
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Clinical Nutrition
- Cognitive Science
- Computer Science Engineering
- Earth Environmental Science
- Earth Science
- Ecosystem Management + Forestry
- Engineering
- Engineering Physics
- Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Environmental Systems Engineering
- Global Disease Biology
- Health Science
- Human Biology
- Industrial Engineering
- Industrial Technology
- Integrative Biology
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Kinesiology
- Marine Biology
- Materials Engineering
- Math and Scientific
- Computation
- Mathematical Analytics
- Mechatronics
- Microbiology
- Natural Sciences
- Neuroscience
- Nursing
- Physics
- Plant Sciences
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Science in Management
- Software Engineering
- Statistics
- IT Management
As the Latinos In Technology program grows, we continue to learn and listen to the needs of our students, particularly in times of the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, we are beginning to see some impacts on our scholars’ educational journeys already.

In response, we received a COVID-19 emergency grant from the Sobrato Foundation to provide additional financial assistance to our scholars undergoing hardships during this time.

We also continue to support our scholars through our Conexiones (Connections) Career Mentorship Program in efforts to maximize the individual professional support students can receive as many are still in virtual learning spaces. Through this five-month curriculum, a mentor helps our scholars explore careers, set goals, develop contacts, and identify resources in hi-tech jobs. In 2021, 30 scholars participated in this program!

If you are interested in becoming a Conexiones mentor, click here.

Finally, we are actively working with our funders and supporters to facilitate internships, engaging virtual workshops that help inform our scholars on financial literacy, planning for post-graduation life, and kickstarting their careers with interviewing and hiring advice.

If you would like to discuss internship opportunities and/or host a professional development workshop with our Latinos in Technology scholars, please reach out to melissa@hfsv.org.
Investors

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