DOD Announces SMART Scholarship Awards for 2019

The Department of Defense Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation Scholarship-for-Service Program awarded 298 scholarships to students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs across the United States this year.

The new cohort brings in an average cumulative grade point average of 3.7 on a 4.0 scale. Nearly 51% of the awards went to students pursuing bachelor's degrees while 26% of the scholarships were awarded to students in doctoral programs. A complete breakdown of the 2019 award statistics is available on the SMART website.

The SMART scholarship award provides students with a unique opportunity to pursue a STEM degree and begin a rewarding career with the DOD upon graduation. For every year of funding awarded, a scholar commits to one year of service in a sponsoring DOD facility. The SMART Scholarship-for-Service Program works with 190 sponsoring facilities serving the Army, Navy, Air Force and other DOD organizations. These facilities are located throughout the country in 40 different states.

Students who are awarded highly-competitive SMART scholarships receive impressive benefits including full tuition, annual stipends, book and health insurance allowances, summer internships and guaranteed civilian positions within the DOD upon graduation. During summer internships, SMART scholars work directly with experienced mentors while gaining valuable field-work experience and skills at their facilities. After graduation, scholars begin their service commitment at the same facilities where they work full-time as civilian employees.

The SMART Scholarship-for-Service Program was established in a concentrated effort to enhance the DOD workforce with talented and innovative scientists, engineers and researchers. For over a decade, SMART scholars have been working within labs and agencies of the Army, Navy, Air Force and other DOD organizations to support the warfighter and contribute to our nation's security.

For more information on the SMART Scholarship-for-Service Program or to learn how students can apply, please visit www.smartscholarship.org. The application window is currently open through December 3, 2019.