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WELCOME FROM
DR. SMITH**A Message from Our
Leadership Team**

Dear Students, Families, and Supporters,

Welcome to the June 2026 edition of the Your Next Steps-US newsletter! On behalf of our entire team, I am thrilled to share the incredible achievements of our students and the exciting resources we have in store for you.

Your Next Steps-US has grown into a nationwide movement, now empowering nearly 1,500 students across 42 states and 22 countries. Our mission remains steadfast: to provide every student with the guidance, tools, and support they need to unlock their full potential.

This month, we celebrate remarkable accomplishments. Arianna has been named a Rhodes Scholar, joining the ranks of the world's most distinguished academic achievers. Several students have secured full-ride scholarships to prestigious institutions, including Stanford University, Columbia, Xavier University of LA, Howard, and MIT. Others have landed competitive internships in marketing, finance, marketing, sports management, anthropology, engineering, and computer science at leading companies.

These successes remind us why we do this work. Every student has the potential for greatness—they just need the right support to get there. Thank you for being part of this journey.

With gratitude,
Dr. Smith & The Your Next Steps-US Team

CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS

We are thrilled to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our students this year. Leading our accomplishments is Arianna, who has been named a Rhodes Scholar—a testament to her dedication, brilliance, and the support of our community. Her journey from high school uncertainty to Oxford University inspires us all.

"Your Next Steps-US gave me the confidence and resources to dream bigger. Now I'm headed to MIT on a full scholarship!"

— MA, class of 2030

Our students continue to reach new heights in higher education. This year, we proudly announce multiple full-ride scholarship recipients to prestigious institutions. These achievements reflect countless hours of preparation and determination.

In the professional world, our students are making their mark with competitive internship placements at Fortune 500 companies such as JP Morgan, Google, IBM, AT&T, Raytheon, Disney, Uber, ESPN, and many others. Your Next Steps-US students are gaining invaluable real-world experience that will shape their careers.

These accomplishments represent just a fraction of what our students have achieved while in high school, college, and beyond. One great stat is that over 50% of our college graduates start graduate school within 12 months post graduation. Every success story strengthens our mission of empowering the next generation of leaders.



SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT



"The scholarship search tool helped me find opportunities I never knew existed. I secured \$15,000 in awards for my freshman year alone!"

- RT, College Sophomore

Finding the right scholarships can transform your educational journey. At Your Next Steps-US, we're committed to connecting you with opportunities that match your unique talents and aspirations.

Our newly enhanced Scholarship Search Tool makes finding funding easier than ever. Visit nextsteps.org/scholarships to explore thousands of opportunities filtered by major, GPA, location, and more. The tool is updated weekly with new scholarships from across the country.

Tips for Scholarship Success:

- Start early and apply often - many students miss deadlines simply because they waited too long.
- Tailor each application to highlight how you specifically meet the scholarship criteria.
- Don't overlook smaller awards - they add up quickly and often have less competition.
- Ask teachers and mentors for recommendation letters well in advance.
- Proofread everything multiple times before submitting.

Remember, scholarships aren't just about grades. Many organizations value community service, leadership, unique backgrounds, and specific career interests. There's funding out there for everyone - you just need to find it.

Need help getting started? Review the website, use the tool, and join the monthly meetings. The secret is apply, apply, and apply!



CAREER SPOTLIGHT: PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE, BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Discover exciting career opportunities in high-demand fields. Your Next Steps-US students are landing internships and building futures in these growing industries.

• BUILDING YOUR CAREER PATH

Your Next Steps Career Team

Our students are making remarkable strides in some of today's most exciting and rewarding career fields. From engineering to entrepreneurship, Your Next Steps-US scholars are proving that with the right guidance and determination, anything is possible.

Engineering & Computer Science: These fields continue to offer outstanding opportunities for our students. This year, several scholars secured prestigious internships at leading tech companies and engineering firms. The demand for skilled professionals in software development, data science, and mechanical engineering remains strong.

Business & Entrepreneurship: Many of our students are pursuing business degrees and launching their own ventures. From finance to marketing to startup creation, the business world offers diverse pathways to success.

Key Steps for Career Success:

- Research industries that align with your interests
- Seek internships and hands-on experience early
- Build your professional network through mentorship
- Develop both technical and soft skills
- Stay curious and embrace lifelong learning

Remember, your career journey starts now. Use our [Career Search tool](#) on the revamped website to explore opportunities tailored to your goals.



YOUR DIGITAL TOOLKIT HAS ARRIVED

Explore Our Revamped Website & Resources

We're thrilled to announce the launch of our completely redesigned website, built with you in mind! Our new Scholarship Finder tool makes discovering funding opportunities easier than ever—simply enter your profile details and instantly access scholarships matched to your unique qualifications and interests.

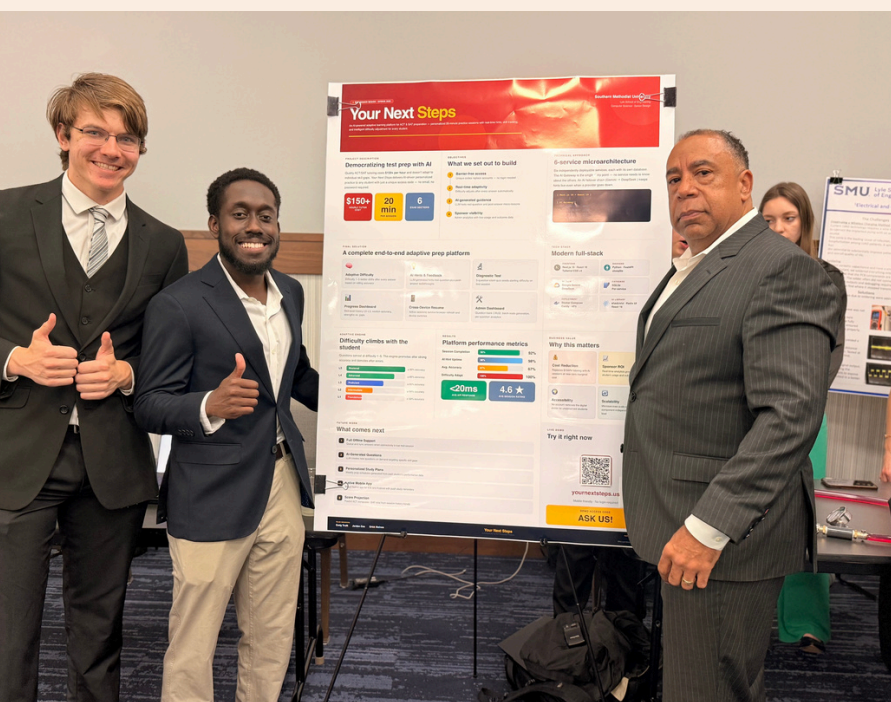
The Career Search Tool helps you explore pathways in engineering, computer science, business, and entrepreneurship with curated resources and industry insights.

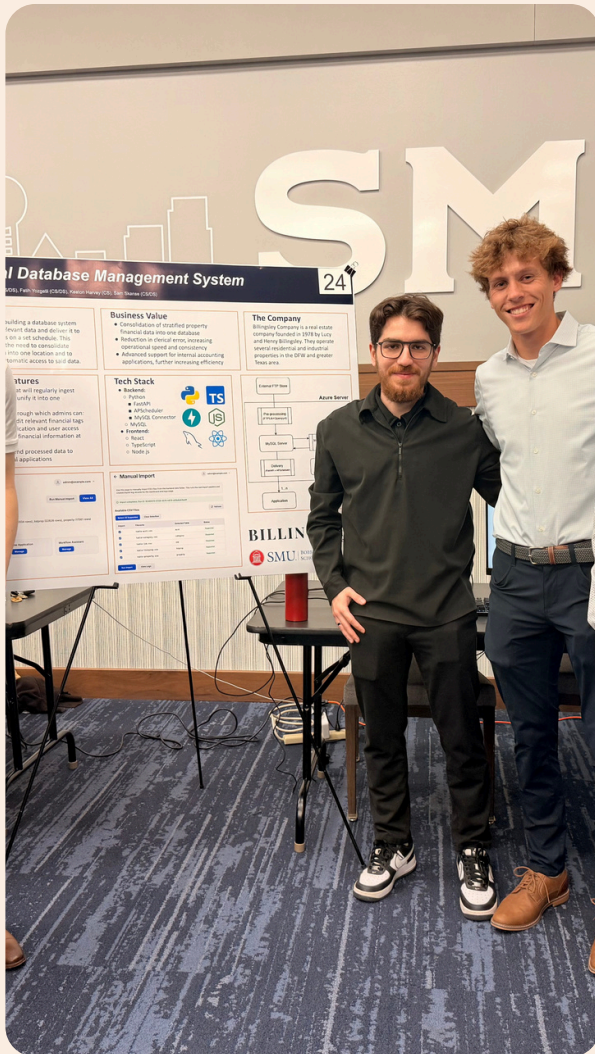
"These tools have transformed how our students discover opportunities—over 200 scholarships matched in the first month alone!"

Preparing for standardized tests? Our enhanced ACT/SAT Prep Resources section offers practice tests, study guides, and strategies to help you achieve your target scores. Whether you're just starting your test prep journey or fine-tuning your skills, these tools are designed to support your success.

The new platform features an intuitive dashboard where you can track your progress, save favorite scholarships, bookmark career resources, and set reminders for important deadlines. We've also added mobile-friendly access so you can explore opportunities anytime, anywhere.

Visit yournextsteps-us.org today to create your profile and start exploring. Our team is continuously adding new features based on student feedback, so check back often for updates!





• AI TECH TOOLS OF THE MONTH

In today's digital age, the right tools can transform your academic journey. This month, we're spotlighting two AI-powered applications that can supercharge your productivity and learning.

Notion AI: Your Ultimate Organization Hub

Notion AI combines note-taking, project management, and AI assistance in one powerful platform. Use it to organize your college applications, track scholarship deadlines, create study schedules, and collaborate on group projects. The AI feature can help you brainstorm ideas, summarize notes, and even draft outlines for essays. Many successful Your Next Steps students credit Notion for keeping them on track during busy application seasons.

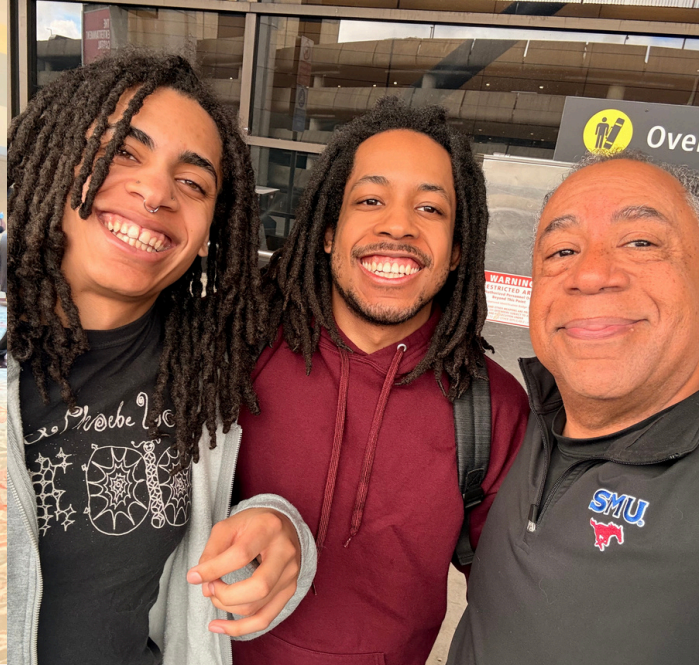
Quizlet AI: Smarter Study Sessions

Quizlet AI takes flashcard studying to the next level. Beyond traditional memorization, the AI analyzes your learning patterns and focuses on concepts you find challenging. It can generate practice questions, create study guides from your notes, and adapt to your learning pace. Perfect for ACT/SAT prep, AP exams, and college coursework.

Getting Started Tips:

- Start with one tool and master it before adding another
- Use Notion AI to plan your week and track goals
- Create Quizlet sets for each subject you're studying
- Take advantage of free student accounts
- Join online communities to learn tips and tricks

"The right technology doesn't replace hard work—it amplifies your efforts and helps you work smarter."



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

JUNE - DECEMBER 2026 SCHEDULE

Mark your calendars! Join us for monthly meetings, workshops, and ACT diagnostic testing opportunities.

Key Deadlines:

- Early college application deadlines: November
- FAFSA opens: October 1, 2026
- Scholarship applications: Ongoing

MONTHLY MEETINGS

All meetings held virtually at 7:00 PM EST

JUNE 15

Summer Kickoff & Goal Setting

JULY 20

College Application Workshop

August 17

Scholarship Search Strategies

September 21

Fall Planning Session

October 19

Career Exploration Night

November 16

Financial Aid & FAFSA Prep

December 14

Year-End Celebration

ACT DIAGNOSTIC

Testing Dates:

JUNE 22, 2026

9:00 AM EST

AUGUST 10, 2026

9:00 AM EST

OCTOBER 5, 2026

9:00 AM EST

NOVEMBER 9, 2026

9:00 AM EST

Registration Required: Visit our website to sign up for meetings and testing. Space is limited for ACT diagnostics, so register early!

CHALLENGE YOUR MIND

Featured Student Challenge & Words of Wisdom

This Month's Brain Teaser: The Bridge Crossing Puzzle

Four people need to cross a bridge at night with only one flashlight. The bridge can hold only two people at a time, and any crossing must use the flashlight. Person A crosses in 1 minute, B in 2 minutes, C in 5 minutes, and D in 10 minutes. When two cross together, they move at the slower person's pace. Can you get everyone across in 17 minutes or less?

Submit your solution to win a **\$25 gift card!**

Student Testimonials

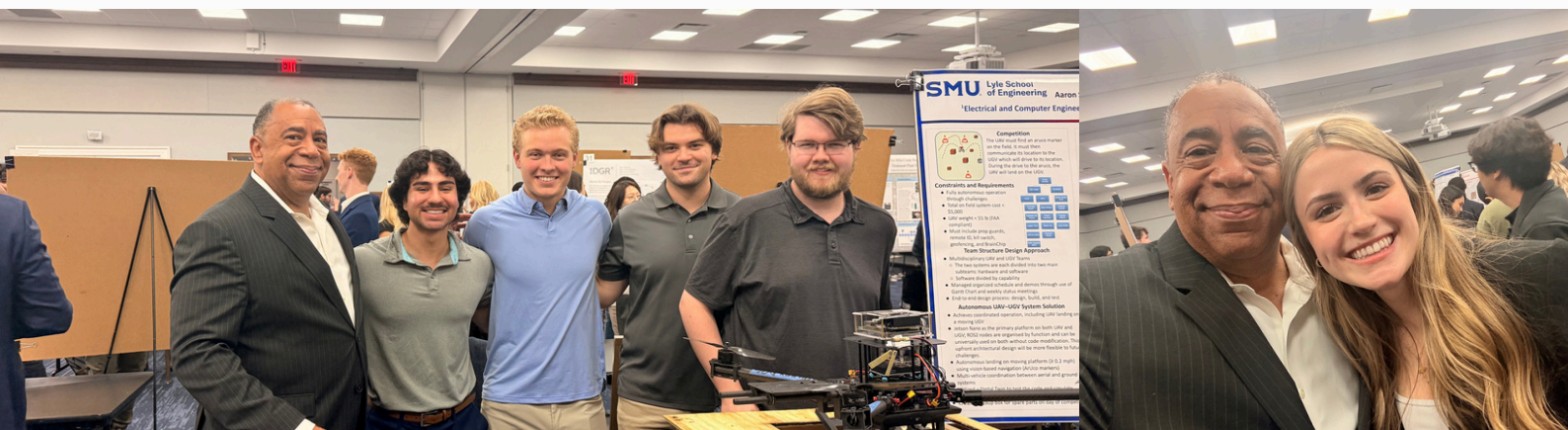
"Your Next Steps helped me believe I could achieve my dreams. Now I'm heading to MIT on a full scholarship!" — Marcus T., Class of 2026

"The mentorship and resources changed my life. I never thought a first-generation student like me could become a Rhodes Scholar." — Arianna W.

"From career guidance to scholarship support, this program gave me the tools to succeed." — Jennifer L., Engineering Intern

Wisdom from Dr Smith:

"Success is not measured by where you start, but by the courage you show in taking your next steps. Every scholarship application, every internship interview, every challenge you face is building the foundation for your extraordinary future. Believe in your potential—we certainly do."



NEXT STEPS CHECKLIST

Your Action Plan for Success



QUICK LINKS:

[Scholarship Finder](#)
[Career Search Tool](#)
[ACT/SAT Prep](#)

TAKE ACTION TODAY

Your Personalized Checklist

For High School Students:

- ☐ Complete your profile on our revamped website.
- ☐ Use the Scholarship Finder to identify 5 opportunities.
- ☐ Register for upcoming ACT diagnostic testing.
- ☐ Attend monthly virtual meetings (June-December).
- ☐ Explore career pathways in engineering, CS, and business.
- ☐ Try Notion AI and Quizlet AI for study organization.

For College Students:

- ☐ Update your resume and LinkedIn profile.
- ☐ Apply for internship opportunities in your field.
- ☐ Connect with mentors through our network.
- ☐ Utilize the Career Search tool for job exploration.
- ☐ Attend networking events and workshops.
- ☐ Share your success story to inspire others.

You have everything it takes to succeed. The Your Next Steps-US team believes in your potential and is here to support you every step of the way. Together, we're empowering nearly 1,500 students across 42 states and 22 countries. Your next chapter starts now!