

# Southwest Agriculture And Food Security Education: Preparing Future Leaders For A Safe And Secure U.S. Food Supply System (SAFE)

A United States Department of Agriculture Funded Project, USDA Award No. 2014-02690

In Conjunction with Texas State University, Austin Community College, Southwest Texas Junior College, and New Mexico State University

---

## Benefits to Undergraduate/ Graduate Students:

- \$3,000 per year for tuition, fees, and books while studying at Austin Community College or Southwest Texas Junior College (funding up to 60 hours or an Associate's degree; Undergraduate students)
- Upon transfer to Texas State University, \$8,000.00 per year for tuition, fees, books, and living expenses (funding up to 120 hours or a Bachelor's degree; Undergraduate students)
- Gain a 4 year degree in Agricultural Science, Environmental Science, Biology, Water Resources, Nutrition, or other related science at Texas State University (Undergraduate students)
- Gain a 2 year graduate degree in Agricultural Science, Environmental Science, Biology, Water Resources, Nutrition, or other related science at New Mexico State University or Texas State University (Graduate students only)
- Gain valuable experiences (field trips, USDA internships/job shadowing, undergraduate research opportunities) to be used to gain future employment

## Requirements of the Program:

- Major in an Agricultural Science, Environmental Science, Biology, Water Resources, Nutrition, or other related science required for U.S.D.A. careers
- Maintain a 2.5 Overall GPA
- Be enrolled in at least 15 credit hours in both the Fall and Spring semesters, or 30 hours per academic year
- Hispanic/Latino ethnicity
- Transfer to Texas State University before or upon the completion of an Associate's degree at the community/ junior college level
- Attend a mandatory 2 day summer workshop at Texas State University during Summer 2015 (undergraduates and graduate students) / Summer 2017 (graduate students only in Cohort 2)
- Work with a faculty member in an "academic research cluster" on a research project and present results at an appropriate conference (funding for travel provided)
- Participate in one or more USDA internships/job shadowings during the Summer semester, 2015-2018
- Attend periodic teleconference sessions with Texas State University Department of Agriculture to provide updates while attending community/junior college/graduate school
- Attend periodic program meetings at Texas State University
- Be a member of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences student organization
- Complete 5 Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency online e-learning courses (Summer 2015 and Summer 2017 – graduate students only in Cohort 2)
- Participate in the 3 summer professional development workshops: Latinos in Agriculture: Professional Development and Career Preparedness for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Summer 2015 & 2016), USDA Careers in Agriculture consortium (Summer 2016), and the Southwest Agriculture, Food Security and Safety Research Meeting (SWARM) – Summer 2018)

## How to Apply:

- Complete the SAFE Application
- Provide a copy of all applicable high school and college transcripts
- Provide a typed 300 word essay entitled "My Education and Career Goals"
- Provide 2 letters of support. Can be from professors, current or former employers, clergy, or others. No letters from family.
- Copy of Financial Aid Award Letter (for current semester)
- Copy of signed Student Contract

### For more information:

Dr. Douglas Morrish  
Department of Agriculture  
Texas State University  
Office (512)245-3321  
Email: [dm43@txstate.edu](mailto:dm43@txstate.edu)

