



AGU Bridge Program:

Increasing equity and graduate geosciences students' success

AGU is focused on nurturing a geoscience culture that supports diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as continued education in the geosciences. By working together, we will create a more welcoming environment in the Earth and space sciences for everyone.

AGU created its Bridge Program in 2019 to increase representation of historically marginalized students in graduate geoscience education by working with departments to adopt equitable education practices and through direct support of individuals entering graduate school via the AGU Bridge Program. The Bridge Program assists institutions in committing to active action against exclusion in the geosciences and supporting students in their programs while also facilitating student entry into graduate school using a single, free application available for review by all partner departments.

AGU
BRIDGE PROGRAM



How students benefit

Students can submit one free application to graduate school for review by all AGU Bridge Partners. Offers of acceptance are sent directly from partner departments. If applicants accept an offer of acceptance to graduate school via the AGU Bridge Program, they will receive AGU membership, access to a cohort of peer students, and invitation to Bridge program events and resources. Students are encouraged to participate in AGU mentoring programs for access to domestic and international mentors. Student applications open in December and close in March.

Applicant requirements:

Attain a bachelor's or master's degree in geoscience or a closely related discipline by the time they would enter the AGU Bridge Program.



Satisfy additional requirements of individual Bridge Program institutions, such as minimum GPA or GRE scores.



Note: Institutions have different requirements. Applicants may be asked to submit additional materials if admitted to programs that require them.

Students who identify with the following historically marginalized identities are encouraged to apply: Hispanic, African American, American Indian, Pacific Islander, Alaskan Native or Native Hawaiian.



Be a U.S. citizen, permanent U.S. resident cardholder or have current enrollment in the DACA program.



Before applying, we recommend reviewing various institution eligibility requirements since advanced undergraduate core geoscience coursework may be required, possibly including courses in advanced calculus, math or other related coursework.

How institutions benefit

We encourage graduate programs that have demonstrated a commitment to equitable education practices and supporting graduate scholars from historically marginalized communities to join the Bridge Program as a Partner Department. Applicants must be U.S.-based institutions that grant a master's or doctoral degree in geosciences. The application is free.

Institutions also receive:



Access to the AGU Bridge Program student applicant database.



Secure a five-year partnership with the potential to renew.



Recognition by AGU of the department's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Earth and space sciences.



Recommendation of the department's supportive post-baccalaureate educational environment to prospective students and others.

Once institutions are accepted, they join for five years with an option to renew. Partner applications open annually in early summer and close in the fall.

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grants Nos. 1834540, 1834545, 1834528 and 1834516. Any opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.