

Engaging Under-Represented Students in Physics & Astronomy

HERE'S THE PROBLEM:

The percentage of PhDs that are awarded to underrepresented minority (URM) students **less than 1/7**th of their representation in the general population.

There are enough URM students in the pipeline today to narrow this gap, but too few persist. The challenge is to identify how to support these students and increase the persistance rate.

70%

of URM STEM students are lost at pre-major to major transition s 40% for non-URM STEM students)

20%

of URM STEM majors go on to a Master's degree

29

of URM STEM majors go on to a PhD

Source: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics. 2015. Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering: 2015. Special Report NSF 15-311. Arlington, VA. Available at http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/wmpd/.

WE HELP BY CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND PROVIDING SUPPORT.

Cal-Bridge is a statewide network of CSU, UC, and community college campuses coming together to form a CSU-UC PhD bridge program promoting broader participation by students from underrepresented groups in physics and astronomy. Cal-Bridge recruits CSU and community college students entering their junior year at a CSU and supports them for three years, through their first year of graduate school.





WHO IS SUCCEEDING WITH CAL-BRIDGE?

82% ACCEPTANCE RATE TO PHD PROGRAMS

70% UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITIES

67%+ 1ST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS

44% IDENTIFY AS WOMEN

22% IDENTIFY AS URM WOMEN

CAL-BRIDGE SCHOLARS PURSUE HIGHER DEGREES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

27 former Cal-Bridge scholars are currently enrolled in PhD programs across the United States. An additional **4** are enrolled in Master's programs intending to eventually apply to PhD programs.

