The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program New Institutional Partnerships

The Doctoral Scholars Program (DSP) has long partnered with SREB states to provide support services to minority students seeking their Ph.D. Given the success and breadth of the program, institutions inside and outside the SREB region are now requesting to partner with DSP, independent of state support. In response, SREB formally pursued this effort in 2014, recognizing that institutions often have sources of funding not directly available to state agencies. The result: 12 institutions became institutional partners. These institutions are supporting 53 doctoral scholars — for up to five years — and dissertation scholars who need one year of support to complete degrees.

SREB-DSP History and Mission

In 1993, SREB states came together to form the SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program to improve faculty diversity on college campuses by increasing the number of minority Ph.D. graduates who become college faculty. By combining resources, SREB states believed they could more efficiently and effectively achieve this goal. The program can now boast many successful outcomes — a testament to the vision of the state leaders who supported it.

The program is structured to provide financial support and offer direct services, including academic, personal and motivational support for students engaged in doctoral study. It also assists in facilitating faculty recruitment and peer networking at the Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, the largest gathering of minority Ph.D. scholars in the nation.

DSP Accomplishments:

- Total scholars served: 1,315
- Total graduates: 773
- Percentage of total graduates working in higher education: 72 percent
- Tenured faculty at colleges and universities among program graduates: 107

Field of study represented by graduates in higher education



Funded SREB Scholars by Agencies and Institutions

Agencies	State	Total number of scholars currently funded
Alabama Commission on Higher Education	AL	14
Arkansas Department of Higher Education	AR	7
The University System of Georgia	GA	35
Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education	KY	7
Louisiana Board of Regents	LA	* 26
Maryland Higher Education Commission	MD	1
Mississippi State Institutions of Higher Learning	MS	2
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education	SC	13
Tennessee Higher Education Commission	TN	13
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia	VA	8
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission	WV	7
Subtotal		133
Institutions	State	Total number of scholars currently funded
University of Alabama	AL	1
Ball State University	IN	4
Indiana University-Bloomington	IN	14
Indiana University-Purdue University	IN	13
University of Kentucky	KY	2
University of Louisville	KY	3
Louisiana State University	LA	* (8)
Louisiana Tech University	LA	* (3)
Tulane University of Louisiana	LA	* (8)
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	LA	* (4)
University of New Orleans	LA	* (3)
Jackson State University	MS	3
North Dakota State University	ND	3
University of Tulsa	OK	4
Marshall University	WV	3
East Tennessee State University	TN	2
West Virginia University	WV	1
Subtotal		53
Grand Total		186

* The Louisiana Board of Regents has participated in the SREB-Doctoral Scholars Program for most of the program's history by funding scholars directly through the state's institutions. Each institution has handled the administration and allocation of funding. The state is represented in both sections in the table above, but the students are counted with the state agency to reflect the historical relationship.

In total, state agencies and institutional partners support 186 doctoral scholars. The Doctoral Scholars Program seeks state agencies and institutions to support scholars. It is looking for those that are interested in joining DSP who want to ensure that minority Ph.D. scholars get the programmatic support they need to succeed in their doctoral studies. Even though DSP is widening its base of supporters to include institutional partners, it greatly values its state partners that provide the majority of program support. DSP will continue to do everything it can to leverage state and institutional resources to produce exceptional scholars who are committed to joining the ranks of the professoriate and serving the next generation of students.