WPI

PASS CS

Creating a Path to Achieving Success and Sense of Belonging in Computer Science

Who we are

- We are a group of professors and administrators
- Our goal is to support PELL eligible computer science students
- We want to help students reach their goals
- We hope to use the knowledge we gain to expand programming support to the computer science field as a whole

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A Quick Overview of PASS CS

- Up to $15,000 scholarship
- A Two-Part Pre-Immersion Program
- Mentoring & academic support during the Fall semester
- Enhanced tutoring and near-peer mentoring
- Continued support through all 4 years at WPI

Am I Eligible?

Are you enrolled at WPI?

Are you a PELL eligible student?

Are you enrolled in the Computer Science program?

How Do I Apply?

- Eligible students receive an email from the Office of Financial Aid notifying them about PASS CS Scholarship program.
- Students complete a short application for the program.
- Application deadline May 20, 2024.
- Awardees notified the of May 28 - 31, 2024.

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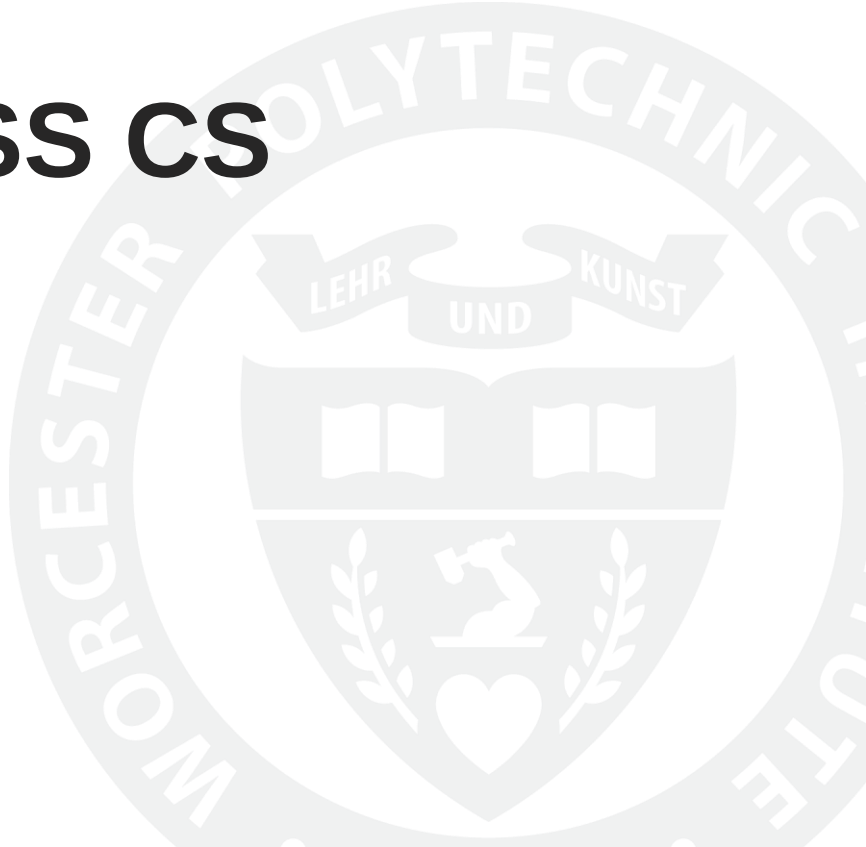
I have been notified I'm a PASS CS Scholar! YAY!

Now what?



Making a commitment

- Once accepted as a PASS CS scholar, you need to commit to the program no later than June 2, 2024.
- We are only accepting 10 students into the program and are looking for students who are excited about the opportunities of PASS CS.
- If we do not hear from you, your spot will be forfeited.

What are the financial benefits of this scholarship?

- Up to $15,000 in funding per year.
- To cover "unmet need"
- As long as, Scholars continue to meet the grant criteria...
  - Computer science major
  - Remain PELL Eligible

What other support will I receive by participating in the PASS CS scholarship program?

A Two-Part Extended Immersion Program with early arrival

Part I - PASS CS Cohort Mini-Bridge: Aug 7-10, 2024

- Introduction to the school and PASS CS Cohort
- Acedemic Preparation: Goal setting, mentoring and familiarity with the university
- Introductions to faculty, mentors, alumni and computer science professionals
- Active learning activities:
  - Brainstorming sessions
  - Small group discussions
  - Q&A Panels

Goals

- Developing Relationships
- Exploring and creating career profiles
- Unstructured open discussions

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Part II – Connections Academic Immersion Experience Program: Aug 10 – 17, 2024

- A jump start and introduction to the WPI course structure, an opportunity to meet WPI faculty, and form relationships with peers
- Any WPI students are welcome to attend the connections program. The PASS CS Cohort is automatically enrolled.
- **Goals:**
  - To positively impact students' awareness and confidence in their own academic, social, and cultural preparedness for college.
  - To provide opportunities for students to experience and understand the expectations of college life and rigor of WPI academics.
  - To build a sense of belonging and confidence in each students' ability find their home within the WPI community.

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Enhanced mentoring & academic support during the Fall semester

- Weekly meetings with supportive faculty
- Building social connections
- Demystifying the existing support structures

Enhanced tutoring and near peer mentoring with older CS Students

- Scholars will be assigned a near-peer mentor/tutor to help navigate the hidden curricula of the existing support structures (self-structure)
- Small peer-led group sessions for scholars to have a goals check-in session and reinforce progress towards their goals developed during the mini-bridge
- Scholars taking the same class will meet once a week to share the everyday actions leading to their success or gain insight into how to improve using near-peer mentors and faculty

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What else can I expect?

- Scholars will be registered together for the same set of courses (where applicable)
- Check-in events each term with professional development topics
- Additional support for research experiences, conference travel, etc.
- Continued support from grant personnel through all 4 years at WPI

Important Dates

Date	Description
May 1, 2024	WPI Deposit Deadline
May 6 – 10, 2024	Notification of Eligibility for PASS CS
May 14, 2024	Virtual Q&A Session for PASS CS
May 20, 2024	PASS CS Application Deadline
May 28 – 31, 2024	Award Notification
June 2, 2024	Confirmation of Acceptance to PASS CS
June 13, 2024	PASS CS Scholars participate in New Student Welcome Event
August 7 – 10, 2024	PASS CS Mini Bridge Immersion Program
August 10 – 17, 2024	Connections Immersion Program
August 18 – 21, 2024	WPI New Student Orientation
August 22, 2024	First Day of Classes

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Virtual Q&A Session for PASS CS
May 14 at 5pm

Topic: Virtual Q&A PASS CS

Time: May 14, 2024 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: https://wpi.zoom.us/j/97749362411

Meeting ID: 977 4936 2411

PASS CS Leadership Team

Dr. Rodica Neamtu
Professor of Teaching, CS
TA Coordinator
Director Bucharest Project Center

Debra Boucher
Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Crystal Brown
Assistant Professor of Political Science
Social Science & Policy Studies (SSPS) Department

Kathy Chen
Executive Director STEM Education

For additional questions please email:
passcs@wpi.edu