



UNIVERSITY of  
**HOUSTON**  
URBAN EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC)  
**ONE TIME FUNDING REQUESTS FOR FY23**



**Urban Experience Program  
One-Time Requests FY23**

The Urban Experience Program respectfully submits four (4) requests for FY2023 One-Time Allocation Requests to enhance programs and services. The requests for funding are as follows:

**FY23 One-time Request Summary**

<b>1. Black Excellence Scholars Training (BEST)</b>	<b><i>\$3,657.00</i></b>
<b>2. First Generation Summer Bridge</b>	\$10,918.00
<b>3. UH Dreamers Initiatives</b>	\$10,070.00
<b>4. Las Comadres</b>	\$5,300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,945.00</b>

**FY23 One-Time Request #1 – Black Excellence Scholars Training (BEST)**

**Overview**

Black Excellence Scholar Training (BEST) Program seeks to serve as a two-semester independent and interdisciplinary learning experience open to historically disenfranchised and underrepresented African Americans students across all majors. Through its mission BEST creates possibilities and changes the landscape of students achieving and retaining high honors throughout their academic career.

**BEST Program Elements**

- Mentorship from UH Faculty Member
- Educational and Social Programming to Enhance Student Experience
- Travel to Professional and Leadership Development conferences
- Cohort-Style Peer Relationships
- Semester Stipend

**Statement of Need**

The mission of the BEST program is in direct alignment with the strategic plan of the Urban Experience Program (UEP). UEP works to progress its strategic goals by empowering students with academic, personal, and professional development resources that propel student success. Notably, BEST works to create resources and opportunities for minority and underserved students by offering holistic advising to prevent minor obstacles from becoming major setbacks to degree achievement. As a result, the BEST Program through the initiation of UEP, proves to be the ideal initiative to provide opportunities to change the landscape of black honors programs in higher education that will foster intellectual independence, motivate academically talented students, prepare students for graduate school and professional careers, and promote lifelong learning. Furthermore, to contribute to the respond to the demands of an increasing population of diverse identities on college and university campuses, Urban Experience Program seeks to identify and support undergraduate students interested in participating in BEST. A sponsorship through UEP will ensure the achievement of the following goals:

- Goal #1: Expand opportunities for educationally and economically underserved citizens
- Goal #2: Support strategic initiatives of UEP for student success through learning, engagement and discovery
- Goal #3: Create and engage in a strategic partnership with University of Houston faculty members mentoring students, foster intellectual independence, engage in independent and interdisciplinary learning experience to create a pipeline of diverse student leaders prepared for graduate studies and become contributing professional in the workforce.

**DSAES Strategic Initiative**

**DSAES Strategic Initiative Student Success:** Champion exceptional opportunities and services to support all UH students.-

Foster the **holistic well-being** of all students through coordinated, intentional services and processes. Expand **diverse experiences** on exploration and education while identifying and meeting the needs of our student population through supportive, inclusive environments. Enrich the sense of **connection, belonging, and shared UH identity** among all students.

**Funding Request:**

*Please note: These numbers are based on a 30 participants*

Conference	\$1950.00
Marketing/shirts	\$1000.00
End of Year Event	\$500.00
<u>Sub Total</u>	<u>\$3450.00</u>
Total for	
6% Administration Fee	\$207.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,657.00</b>



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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,945.00</b>

**FY23 One-Time Request #2 – First Generation Summer Bridge**

One of our pillar programs to support students is our Summer Bridge Program. The 4 day, 3 night immersion program is hosted by the Urban Experience Program and led by our Student Leaders. Participants will be selected from accepted and committed University of Houston students transitioning from high school to college. Participants will work through an integrated curriculum focused on breaking down the barriers to success that students face in their first year of college. Students will be armed with academic, social, and financial tools which will equip them to better cope with the unique challenges faced by first-generation and under-represented college students.

The purpose of the summer bridge is to:

- Increase confidence in addressing the challenges faced in their first year of college including the academic rigor, financing their education, and personal adjustment
- Increase self-efficacy to navigate the resources available at the University of Houston
- Instill a sense of belonging and involvement
- Encourage personal growth through exposure to new populations and projects

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**Funding Request:**

*Please note: These numbers are based on a single Summer Bridge for up to 55 participants*

Housing	\$4,300.00
Event shirts	\$500.00
Food	\$5,000.00
Marketing	\$500.00
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>\$10,300.00</u>
Total for 1 Summer Bridge	\$10,300.00
6% Administration Fee	\$618.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$10,918.00</u></b>



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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,945.00</b>

**FY23 One-Time Request #3 – UH Dreamers Initiatives**

The priority at UEP is to help students thrive by offering a variety of services that students need to get the most out of their college experience and prepare for a successful future. One of our many goals is to expand opportunities for DACA and undocumented students by providing the support they need to achieve the social and economic mobility they desire. The multifaceted components of our program promotes scholarship, community service, and personal and professional development by offering a holistic approach to advising.

During FY15, UEP became the Dream.US scholarship advisor office and campus liaison for DACA and undocumented students. to engage in conversations around current events. In Fall 2018, UEP partnered with the Center for Diversity & Inclusion, Counseling and Psychological Services, to host the Dreamers Series. The Dreamer Series serves as a signature program for UEP, providing an opportunity for students, staff, and faculty to learn about and engage with UH Dreamers.

The goals of Dreamer Series are:

- To provide support to Dreamers by spreading awareness about educational laws and student rights
- Increase persistence to graduation of Dreamers by providing academic, personal, career, and professional advising and programs
- Promoting a welcoming environment and campus climate

This helps faculty, staff, and students gain a deeper understanding and knowledge of undocumented through a series of activities. As Dreamer Series continues to develop, we will look to deepen existing partnerships and develop new partnerships both across campus and in the community. In the wake of the current political climate it has become imperative that we provide students with ways to engage in and support the UH Dreamer community through social issue education and service opportunities.

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**Funding Request**

Marketing	\$2,500.00
Dreamer Resource Fair	\$1,400.00
Immigrant Day of Action	\$350.00
Dreamer Summit	\$3,750.00
Dreamer Support Series	\$500.00
Dreamer Mixer	\$1,000.00
SubTotal	\$9,500.00
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6% Administration Fee	\$570
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,070.00</b>



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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,945.00</b>

**FY23 One-Time Request #4– Las Comadres**

A pillar of the Urban Experience Program, Las Comadres College Mentoring Program supports first generation Latina students with meaningful mentoring relationships from University of Houston Latina faculty/staff. In collaboration with Student Outreach and Support, Las Comadres offers representation, opportunities, and a community for first generation Latina students to feel welcomed, seen, and supported.

Our goals are to help increase our students’ sense of belonging, navigate their college experience and explore what it means to be a first generation Latina college student, graduate and professional. In response to the need for increased student engagement as a HSI, the Urban Experience Program has partnered with campus partners to bring events and programs that are relevant to the needs of UH students.

In just three years, we have tripled in participation for both mentees and mentors. Our mentors are faculty and staff and represent over 30 departments and colleges. Mentees represent all majors and classifications. Though we focus on recruiting first year students, mentees have the option of joining at any point in their academic career. We have doubled in mentee participants every year for last three years. Our growing Comadre network is now 140 members and counting!

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**Funding Request**

Fall Retreat	\$1,700.00
Roundtable	\$300.00
Fall Family Event	\$500.00
Spring Mentor Event	\$500.00
End of Year Reception	\$1,000.00
UH Branded Items	\$1,000.00
SubTotal	\$5000.00
6% Administration Fee	\$300.00
<b>Total</b>	<hr/> <b>\$5,300.00</b>