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FACT SHEET

\$700,000 Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program (MSEIP) Grant

GRANT OVERVIEW

- The College will receive \$235,517 each year for three years to mentor, monitor and counsel 12 sophomore STEM students through specialized courses and activities.
- Ideal participants are students who face financial obstacles; and, have 2.25 2.75 GPA, ambition, and a desire to identify ways to improve their academic performance.
- The College will establish the Center for the Promotion of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education to contribute to student development and to increase the number of African American graduates who enter into the STEM workforce.

PROGRAM GOALS

- **Increase** the number of STEM graduates by **25**% each year over the 3-year period.
- **Develop** future middle and high school STEM teachers by serving as a pipeline for students to progress to graduate school and teacher preparation programs.
- Achieve close to a 100% retention rate by specifically addressing both the financial and academic needs of the College's entering freshmen STEM students, with the purpose of empowering them to not only progress to their sophomore year, but also through to graduation.

(See statistics on the next page)

The American Missionary Association founded LeMoyne-Owen College in 1862 to educate freedmen and runaway slaves at the Union Army's Camp Shiloh in Shiloh, Tennessee. LeMoyne merged with Owen College in 1968. Today, LeMoyne-Owen College has a student body of nearly 1,000 students and offers 4-year degrees in five disciplines: Business and Economic Development; Education; Fine Arts and Humanities; Natural and Mathematical Sciences; and, Social and Behavioral and Sciences.



DROP OUT RATES AND OTHER STATISTICS

- The state of Tennessee was the **12**th **highest state** in the U.S. in money spent on students who did not return after their first year of college, averaging **\$221.2 million** a year between 2003 and 2008. -- <u>Finishing the First Lap: the Cost of First Year Student Attrition in America's Four Year Colleges and Universities, American Institutes for Research</u>
- At only **68%**, the country's freshman to sophomore retention rate is the **lowest** since data gathering began in 1985. -- *ACT 2010 report*
- Nonpartisan nonprofit research group Public Agenda, with the support of Bill and Melinda
 Gates, reported in their publication, "With Their Whole Lives Ahead of Them", a 71% dropout rate among the 614 adults (ages 22-30) with postsecondary education that it surveyed in
 2009.
 - Of that 71%, about 35% said they dropped out because balancing work and study was too stressful.

LEMOYNE-OWEN STUDENT BODY

- **99 percent** of LeMoyne-Owen College students are African-American with the majority of these men and women being first-generation college students.
- Over **86 percent** of LeMoyne-Owen students are eligible for full financial aid support.