

JAGUAR SCHOLARS PROJECT ABSTRACT	
Applicant Name:	Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA)
Project Title:	Jaguar Scholars
Area to be Served:	The project will serve thirteen zip codes across six parishes: Bienville (71001), Bossier (71064,71111), Caddo (71101,71103,71104,71106, 71107,71108,71109), Claiborne (71040), DeSoto (71052), Webster (71055)
Number Served:	80
Residential Component:	Yes. Housing will be provided as a supportive service for participants that need it or available through financial aid for those that receive it.
Funding Requested:	\$1,186,900.00
Total Cost per Participant:	\$14,836.00
Applicant Accreditation:	Historically Black College & University (HBCU) Two-Year Public Community College Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC)

Experience working with Job Corps Populations. SUSLA is an open-access institution. 51% of the student population is under 25 years of age. 63% of students received Pell for Fall 2018. Additionally, SUSLA has received two previous YouthBuild grants (2014 and 2016) serving a similar population of low-income youth, youth in foster care, an offender, a youth who is an individual with a disability, a child of an incarcerated parent, a homeless youth, a migrant youth; and is a school dropout or an individual who was a school dropout and has subsequently reenrolled. SUSLA is a repeat awardee of the EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. Participants were 18 and up, ex-offenders, veterans, and unemployed or underemployed, high school dropouts and those living in at-risk polluted neighborhoods.

Personal/Career and Employment Services. All SUSLA students are afforded the following services: academic advising, ADA services, career services (resume writing, interview skills workshops, internet-based job search platform, linkage to One-Stop centers, linkage to wage/employment data), tutorial services, financial aid advising, testing services, job fairs, and internships.

Technical programs. Accounting Clerk (24 credits), Administrative Technology Specialist (33 credits), Child Development (24 credits), Computer Information Systems (27 credits), Computer Networking Technology (26 credits), Dialysis Technology (24 credits), Emergency Medical Tech-Basic (21 credits), Healthcare Access Associate (23 credits), Nursing Assistant (4 credits), Phlebotomy (16 credits), Sterile Processing Technology (27 credits), Web Development (27 credits). The following short-term, non-credit bearing workforce development programs will also be offered for training: Environmental remediation services (330 clock hours), IT Fundamentals/G-Suite (240 clock hours), Microsoft Office Specialist (335 clock hours), Patient care technician (300 clock hours), and Pharmacy technician (400 clock hours).

Summary. Jaguar Scholars will serve two cohorts of 40 youth and young adults meeting Job Corps eligibility in high-demand technical occupations for Northwest Louisiana. The program will improve long-term economic stability as well as remove barriers and obstacles that prohibit participants from becoming productive citizens by providing services proven to be successful in addressing the holistic needs of each participant. The program will target residents in nine Opportunity Zones across six parishes. SUSLA projects an 85% completion rate and a 90% qualifying placement rate for Jaguar Scholars. The proposed “job-aligned” technical programs afford scholars to navigate multiple entry points along career pathways in business, healthcare, manufacturing, and information technology clusters. Entry points begin at critical stages of education and career development, motivating interest, empowering abilities and performance while providing support and earning academic credit or industry-based credentials. Participants will earn an average of 18 academic credits and make an average hourly wage of \$8.00 per hour.

Opportunity Zones: 22015010601, 22017023400, 22017023800, 22017024303, 22017024601, 22017024900, 22017025100, 22017025300, 22031950300.