LEAD
Leadership Through Engineering Academic Diversity

Enhancing the academic success of ethnic under-represented engineering students
LEAD stands for “Leadership through Engineering Academic Diversity.” It’s a program of services developed to attract and retain multicultural students to the field of engineering.

**LEAD HAS THREE IMPORTANT GOALS:**

1. To enhance the academic success of multicultural engineering students at Iowa State
2. To increase the number of successful multicultural engineering graduates
3. To help students earn higher grades, repeat fewer courses, graduate sooner, and be better prepared for employment
WHAT DOES THE PROGRAM OFFER?

As a LEAD student, you’ll have access to a support system of tutors, workshops, and for-credit classes that will help you adjust to college life, succeed academically, and obtain internships and jobs. Some of LEAD’s unique resources include:

• **ENGINEERING 104 AND ENGINEERING 105**—Two one-credit courses designed to enhance your academic success by teaching study skills and time-management techniques. You’ll also learn about international opportunities in engineering and engineering student organizations. Resume writing and other professional development topics will be covered as well.

• **LEAD STUDY CENTER**—A spacious gathering area where you can meet other LEAD students for informal networking or to study for classes you might share. The area includes computers, printers, and a few of the amenities of home (including a fridge and a microwave). The center is open 24/7.

• **LOCKHEED MARTIN HOMEWORK HELP CENTER**—A meeting place where you can get extra help in entry-level chemistry, physics, and calculus courses. The Help Center is staffed with tutors 20 hours a week.

• **LEAD LEARNING COMMUNITY**—Be part of a group of people with similar academic interests and schedules. You and other LEAD students will study together, learn together, socialize together, and live together in the same residence halls. Iowa State’s learning communities are among the best in the U.S., and the students who participate in them do better in their classes.

• **LEAD LIBRARY**—This is a large library of study guides, textbooks, and CD-Rom and DVD resources related to the core engineering study areas.
WHO PARTICIPATES IN LEAD?

LEAD services and resources are designed to enhance the experience of African American, Latino/Latina, Asian American and Native American students in Engineering. In addition to being a part of the LEAD family, you’ll also be an important member of the larger engineering community as well as the university community, both of which are committed to diversity in their student bodies, faculties, and staffs.

HOW DO I TAKE ADVANTAGE?

There is no additional cost for LEAD Program services and resources. Most programs and services do not require you to sign in or join, all you have to do is

- Go to the study center
- Ask the tutors a question
- Attend the activities
- Enroll in Engineering 104 and 105
- Join the Learning Community
The LEAD Program partners with Iowa State’s Office of Multicultural Student Affairs to offer the **ACADEMIC PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE** or **APEX**. APEX is a summer program designed to get students of color off to a good start on an engineering degree from Iowa State. Participants can earn up to 7.5 credits while enrolled in regular courses that fulfill degree requirements. Students attend seminars that provide **HANDS-ON TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE** and introduce them to concepts they will study in future courses. Professional development workshops, academic skills training, and cultural and social activities round out the summer.

**IOWA STATE COVERS BOTH TUITION AND ROOM AND BOARD COSTS FOR THE SUMMER PROGRAM.** A small participation fee may be assessed.
“As a LEAD student assistant, I have had the opportunity to see firsthand how LEAD helps each student develop academically, professionally, and personally.” —NICHOLE TAYLOR, LEAD STUDENT IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

“Through the LEAD Program I have met and become friends with many fellow engineering students who are like me, have the same challenges in their engineering courses, and help motivate me to complete my degree.” —BARBARA NSIAH, LEAD GRADUATE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
“The LEAD Study Center is like a second home to me. I know that when I’m there I can always find the support that I need.”—NUKU DOAMEKPOR, LEAD STUDENT IN AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

“LEAD has given me the opportunity to work with students tutoring in the study center. This has been a great experience for me to learn about myself and others.”—COLIN HOUSEAL, LEAD STUDENT IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

“LEAD was generous enough to give me the opportunity to do undergraduate research, which helped me participate in a program where I got to go to Japan. LEAD opens doors for opportunities.”—ELI BRANCH, LEAD GRADUATE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING
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