Stockton University
Compass Fund
Proposal Form

Please Review Carefully

- Please complete this form, save it to your hard drive, and email a copy to: CompassFund@stockton.edu.

- Compass Fund proposals must demonstrate a direct link to one or more of the six areas of focus in the University's *Strategic Plan 2025 – Choosing Our Path*

- Proposals must provide specific budget details, identify realistic outcomes, and specify assessment measures.

- Proposals must include an endorsement from your Divisional Executive. Please include an email or memo from your Divisional Executive with this application or have the documentation sent to: CompassFund@stockton.edu.

- Particular attention will be paid to proposals which include one or more of the following:
  - A clear demonstration of University-wide impact.
  - Involvement of students as project leaders/mentees.
  - Identification of co-funding opportunities in addition to anticipated Compass Fund support.
  - Inter-departmental or inter-divisional collaboration within the project planning or implementation process.

General Application Information

Project Leader Name	**Adam Aguiar**
Project Leader Email	**Adam.aguiar@stockton.edu**
Project Partner(s)	**David Furgione, Amanda Allen**
Title of Project	**Science Enrichment Academy at Stockton**

I am a:		Student	x	Faculty Member		Staff Member

Project start date: 3/02/2023	Project end date: 8/30/2024

Proposal Category (choose one)

One-Time Project/Event		One-Year Pilot Project		Two-Year Pilot Project	
	$5,000 or less		$5,000 or less		$5,000 or less
	More than $5,000		More than $5,000	x	More than $5,000

Strategic Area of Focus

	Inclusive Student Success
x	*Diversity and Inclusion*
x	*Teaching and Learning*
x	*Strategic Enrollment Management*
	Financial Sustainability
	Campus Community, Communication, and Shared Governance

Goals: select all relevant goals for your strategic area/s.

Inclusive Student Success

	Offer comprehensive support systems that recognize how a more diverse student body brings a broader range of academic, social, and cultural assets, challenges, and needs.
	Work continuously to close equity gaps in students' access to learning opportunities, research with faculty, academic achievement, degree attainment, and post-graduate opportunities
	Build enrollment strategies that position Stockton as a first-choice academic home for a diverse, high achieving applicant pool.
	Increase partnership opportunities for, and with, our growing network of talented and dedicated alumni.

Diversity and Inclusion

	Focus on recruiting, hiring, and retaining a high-quality and increasingly diverse faculty and staff.
x	Build enrollment strategies to reach students who have not previously seen Stockton as their academic home.
	Ensure access to sufficient resources so that all students have the opportunity to participate in foundational elements of Stockton's liberal arts education.
	Restructure institutional aid to better address financial need, thereby spreading available funds across a larger population of financially disadvantaged students.
	Intentionally create culturally affirming learning opportunities and spaces that foster a sense of belonging, safety, and wellness for all students.

Teaching and Learning

x	Enhance information about study skills, time management, and adaption to campus life through a variety of venues to start students on the right academic footing.
x	Embrace new academic programs and approaches that enhance teaching and learning, respond to changing social and economic conditions, and prepare students for emerging fields.
	Reinforce our Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs) with students and encourage faculty to align curricular and co-curricular activities to create a well-rounded education, relevant to a changing world.
	Recognize and support the inherent value and contributions of faculty in their courses as well as activities outside of the classroom.
	Support faculty research about, and participation in, professional development opportunities that strengthen the classroom experience.

Strategic Enrollment Management

x	Develop enrollment and retention strategies at the institutional, school, and program levels that account for our mission, market demand, cost, and capacity.
	Continue to strengthen the University's data analytics efforts regarding recruitment, persistence, and graduation, as well as enrollment, placement testing, housing, and financial aid projections.
x	Strengthen partnerships with high schools and community colleges through programs.

Financial Sustainability

Coordinate efforts between strategic, academic, and financial planning, including the determination of enrollment strategies specific to academic programs and the financial impact of particular pedagogic strategies.

Implement a University-wide, zero-based budgeting exercise for non-salary expenditures to ensure optimal resource allocations, particularly with respect to discretionary expenses, and an accurate understanding of program costs.

Coordinate with key stakeholders to institute appropriate space- and time-management practices, a capital investment strategy, and an accompanying campus master plan update that aligns with the University's academic and student life goals, and describes new facility needs and appropriate reinvestment in existing facilities, along with information technology and infrastructure.

Create strategies to enhance the University's financial ratios and ensure the integrity of the University's credit rating.

Leverage capital and intellectual assets to optimize revenue-generating operations.

Reallocate existing resources toward uses that strengthen operations, revenue, FTE enrollment, and the University brand.

Maintain and routinely test a multi-year financial planning model.

Campus Community, Communication, and Shared Governance

Collectively evaluate our academic and administrative structures to ensure we are as efficient and effective as possible.

Renew our commitment to shared governance and transparency.

Regularly share institutional updates and collaboratively assess our strategic planning process.

Empower our staff, alongside our faculty, students, and administration – to share in the governance of our institution.

Embrace vigorous conversation in an atmosphere of collegiality and respect.

Please provide a narrative summary of your project.

This proposal's request is to provide a full cost coverage to enable 15 highly talented and disadvantaged high school juniors from an ethnic background profoundly underrepresented in higher education (including at Stockton University) and STEM academic fields/workforce, to attend the 2023 (5 students) and 2024 (10 students) Science Enrichment at Stockton (SEAS) programs. Our overarching objective for the requested funding is to enhance the value of the SEAS program as a bridge for profoundly underrepresented students from the local community and South Jersey high schools to enrollment in higher education, particularly at Stockton University. This will be accomplished by providing them engaging and high-impact learning opportunities embedded in a nurturing academic community of Stockton faculty, students and staff, to enhance their preparation, motivation, confidence, and access to a quality STEM higher education, and eventually attract them to attend and succeed at Stockton University. In doing so, Stockton college students will serve as resistant assistants and program aids, providing them experience as project leaders and mentors to the high schoolers. The high schoolers will also be provided leadership opportunities through the multiple group-based activities and projects run in SEAS. NAMS faculty involvement in a variety of interconnected student activities (similar to past SEAS programs) will clearly illuminate the inter-departmental and inter-divisional collaboration within the project planning and implementation. The public relations and increased student recruitment garnered by the implementation of the SEAS program will clearly display its university-wide impact.

Strategic Impact
- How will this project clearly address the strategic area/s of focus and the goal/s chosen above?
- What will be the institution-wide impact of this project?

With significantly higher retention and graduation rates compared to the national averages, we have an extensive support structure in place, in a closely-knit community to facilitate high student success rates for diverse students. Stockton University's faculty with their diverse backgrounds will ensure students attending SEAS will be exposed to numerous STEM careers, role-models, and educational opportunities in a variety of academic disciplines. Such will involve individual and group based project construction, implementation, and communication involving data acquisition and interpretation.

The program in the past has been proven an effective recruitment tool in persuading and supporting SEAS students (a high percentage of which were underrepresented minorities) to matriculate at Stockton, and some to pursue higher education at other post-secondary institutions. Through the use of compass funds, this positive impact will be bolstered.

In these ways, SEAS serves as an enrollment strategy to reach students who have not previously seen Stockton as their academic home; to enhance student study skills, time management, and adaption to campus life through a variety of venues; as an academic program that enhances teaching and learning, response to changing social and economic conditions, and preparation of students for emerging fields; as an enrollment and retention strategy at the institutional, school, and program level; and to strengthen partnerships with high schools contributing students to the program.

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Assessment Plan
- How will you know if your project is a success?
- What are your anticipated outcomes and specific measurements for success?
- What is your project's "finish line"?

The SEAS program is to serve as a bridge to college, to enhance access and preparation of participating students to achieve a high quality post-secondary education in a STEM field. Pre- and post- surveys, and tracking the progress and location of SEAS students through their continued education will serve as assessment on the program. SEAS student enrollment and retention to Stockton will be monitored and recorded as well. Through the above mechanisms, the effectiveness of SEAS as a Stockton-specific recruitment and retainment tool, and as a polisher of student career interests, can be verified as has been done in prior SEAS programs.

Budget Summary – Compass Fund Requested Funding Only

Item	FY2022 July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	FY2023 July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023	FY2024 July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	Notes/Comments (stipends, supplies, hospitality, etc.)
1. Chartwells (Food)		$2,083	$4,166	
2. Room and hall fees		$1,625	$3,250	
3. Res Life Linens		$63	$125	
4. Equipment		$1,657	$1,313	
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10				
Total		$5,428	$8,854	

Please note: a proposal can only receive support from the Compass Fund for two fiscal years. Compass Funding cannot be used to fund full-time/part-time salaried positions or office computer equipment. Compass Funding cannot be transferred to other budgets.

Compass Funding Budget Questions

What department or academic school will your budget for this project reside?	NAMS
Who will be the Budget Unit Manager (BUM)?	Thushani Rodrigo-Peiris
Who will be the budget processor?	Amanda Allen
If you are requesting funding to hire a TES or consultant, is that person a current Stockton employee?	Yes, currently paid as a/an: ___ Adjunct ___ Faculty ___ Staff ___ TES ___ Student	___ No
Will you need Compass Funds for <u>immediate</u> use to begin your project?	Yes, date needed: _____	___ No

Additional Funding from Other Sources

Are you receiving any other University funding for this project?	___ Yes	_x_ No
If so, from where?		
If so, what is the amount and purpose of this additional funding?		
If so, has this additional funding already been secured or is it just anticipated at this time?		

How will this project sustain itself after Compass Funding concludes? (You only need to answer this question if you are seeking support beyond a one-time project or event)

Future funding for the SEAS Program will come from several community sources. Beginning in the summer of 2022, the Project leader and the Project Partners will begin to look for and identify individuals and businesses that can sponsor a student. The sponsor will defray the students cost of attending the SEAS Program. We will initially look for student sponsors in the following areas:

Sponsors outside of the University:
1. Parents of students that have attended SEAS in the past.
2. Local community businesses and organization.
3. National Corporations and businesses.

We will also explore on campus sources to brainstorm other methods of sponsorship of students. These sources may include, but will not be limited to, programs that have been successful in sponsoring students to attend summer programs and the Office of Development.

Additional Support Questions

Will your project require support from Information Technology Services?	_x_ Yes	___ No
If yes, please provide details:	Minimal. Only for troubleshooting projector/computer issues during classroom presentations	
Will your project require support from Plant/Facilities & Operations?	___ Yes	_x_ No
If yes, please provide details:		
Will your project require support from any other unit or division?	_x_ Yes	___ No
If yes, please provide details	Use of Stockton van transportation as needed	

Divisional Executive Approval/Support

Have you discussed and received endorsement of your Compass Fund proposal from your Divisional Executive? Please include an email or memo from your Divisional Executive with this application or send the documentation to CompassFund@stockton.edu	