



Holmes Cadets Program

What is the AACTE Holmes Cadets Program?

The AACTE Holmes Cadets Program supports high school students from historically underrepresented groups interested in a career in teaching, school administration, or the professoriate.

What are the benefits of the AACTE Holmes Cadets Program?

For Students

- Membership in a national network of peers with access to dedicated online social networks
- Locally developed activities to support students in exploring education careers
- Mentoring opportunities by AACTE Holmes Program alumni currently in academia, teaching, and other leadership positions
- Opportunities to attend the AACTE Annual Meeting
- Dedicated mentoring programs at the AACTE Annual Meeting
- A career exploration forum at the AACTE Annual Meeting
- Annual Holmes Scholars Summer Policy Institute in Washington, DC, including participation in AACTE's Day on the Hill and networking events associated with the AACTE State Leaders Institute
- Leadership and learning opportunities at the national, state, and local level, such as participation in conferences and policy/advocacy training

For Institutions

- Inspire students from groups not well represented in the educational enterprise to pursue careers in education
- Enhance the retention and graduation rates of high school students by providing a support network of peers and unique opportunities for professional experiences
- Demonstrate and enhance the institution's role as a leader in supporting diversity
- Receive recognition in AACTE materials and communications

Why should an institution adopt a Holmes Cadets Program?

- To encourage high school students to pursue careers in education
- To diversify the educator pipeline to better reflect PK-12 demographics
- To improve the quality of the education workforce by nurturing educators who can serve all learners
- To establish high-quality mentoring environments and opportunities for participants
- To inspire students to engage in the larger professional community
- To strengthen connections among PK-12 and higher education institutions

What are the expectations for sponsoring INSTITUTIONS?

Sponsoring institutions agree to the following commitments:

- Maintain active membership with AACTE (for postsecondary institutions)
- Maintain a partnership with a postsecondary educator preparation program at an AACTE member institution (for high schools)
- Uphold the mission and values of the AACTE Holmes Program
- Provide Holmes Cadets with financial support through scholarships or other programs, as relevant to the sponsoring institutions' capacity and resources
- Offer coordinated mentoring support to their Holmes Cadets in partnership with a postsecondary educator preparation program
- Provide financial support for Holmes Cadets and one coordinator to attend the AACTE Annual Meeting and the Holmes Scholars Summer Policy Institute (including transportation, hotel accommodations, meals, and other related expenses)
- Designate a faculty/staff person as the Holmes Cadets program coordinator
- Send a representative to the Holmes Cadets program coordinator and dean sessions at the AACTE Annual Meeting
- Promote the value of the AACTE Holmes Program and the National Association of Holmes Scholars Alumni network among Holmes Cadets and during Holmes programming
- Include reference to AACTE and the AACTE Holmes Cadets Program in any promotional materials (print or electronic) related to the program
- Provide an annual report to AACTE of Cadet selection, progress, and completion, as well as program activities and outcomes
- Complete an initial 3-year term of participation

What are the expectations for HOLMES CADETS?

The Holmes Cadets Program is open only to high school students from historically underrepresented groups pursuing a diploma or GED. These individuals may be nominated during their freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior year and begin their Holmes Cadet status at any point that the institution is prepared to fully support their participation. Participants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a member of a group not well represented in the education field
- Demonstrate a commitment to equity and diversity
- Agree to participate in school-university-community collaborative partnership arrangements for research, service, or advocacy activities
- Hold an interest in or demonstrate potential for a career in the education field
- Uphold program requirements in high regard

In addition, Holmes Cadets agree to the following commitments:

- Participate in the AACTE Annual Meeting, including the Holmes Program preconference events, as able
- Present at the AACTE Annual Meeting each year they are in the program, as appropriate
- Participate at least once in the AACTE Holmes Scholars Summer Policy Institute and AACTE Day on the Hill, as able
- Participate in at least one other education conference or field trip
- Propose and implement a project that relates to or forwards the goals of AACTE and authentically engages the student in advocacy, policy, service, or research
- Participate in activities and meetings sponsored by the National Association of Holmes Scholars Alumni (some of which occur at the AACTE Annual Meeting)