The Goodnight Scholars Program invests in students from low- and middle-income families in North Carolina studying in the STEM and education disciplines. This investment represents a commitment to our students’ personal, professional and academic development through scholarship funding, comprehensive programming and enrichment opportunities. The Program empowers Goodnight Scholars to “pay it forward” as transformational leaders at NC State University, in North Carolina and in the world.

NC State University
A global leader in education, research and innovation, located in one of the fastest-growing cities in America.

The Goodnight Scholars Program
A premier scholarship program valued at $20,500 per year for outstanding students from North Carolina high schools and community colleges majoring in STEM and education disciplines.

Our students enjoy the best of both worlds. They have access to the vast array of resources available at a large research university coupled with a small, supportive community of scholars. This dynamic combination fosters an environment thriving with intellectual discovery, collaboration and creativity.

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The Goodnight Scholars Program
A Lifelong Community

A PhD researcher and Chancellor’s Fellow at the University of California, Berkeley. A high school math teacher in Raleigh. A veterinary medicine student at NC State University. Engineers at Google, Cisco Systems, and Lockheed Martin.

What do they have in common? They are Goodnight Scholars Program alumni.

Since 2008, the Goodnight Scholars Program has invited exceptional students in STEM and STEAM education disciplines to join our community of scholars. This community continues past graduation and lives on through the Goodnight Alumni Network. Our alumni are pursuing careers with multinational companies and technology startups. They are teaching in North Carolina and overseas. Many are pursuing graduate and professional degrees. Whether their personal and professional aspirations take them, one thing is for certain: They will always be an important part of our community.

Meet the Goodnights

Dr. Goodnight ’65 earned his PhD in statistics and speaks internationally on leadership, education, and innovation. Since he co-founded SAS in 1976, Dr. Goodnight has served as the company’s chief executive officer. Our alumni are pursuing careers with multinational companies and technology startups. They are teaching in North Carolina and overseas. Many are pursuing graduate and professional degrees. Whether their personal and professional aspirations take them, one thing is for certain: They will always be an important part of our community.

Mrs. Goodnight ’68 is director of community relations at SAS. She serves on the NC State Board of Trustees and is a member of the National Advisory Board for the William and Ida Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at NC State.

The Goodnight Scholars Program was founded in 2008 with a generous gift from NC State alumni Dr. Jim and Mrs. Ann Goodnight.

Today’s Learners, Tomorrow’s Leaders

The Goodnight Scholars Program offers high-impact learning opportunities that develop the critical skills necessary for achievement in STEM and education fields. These learning opportunities connect students with local, national and international leaders in STEM education, research and industry. Scholars can expect to participate in an assortment of thought-provoking and unique programs including:

Professional and cultural immersion trip to Boston, Massachusetts
Exposure to cutting-edge research from NC State’s renowned faculty
Roundtable discussions with world-class educators, practitioners and entrepreneurs
Mentorship from NC State faculty and local industry professionals
Professional development workshops
Leadership opportunities that promote personal development and allow scholars to give back to our community
Enrichment grant funding to support travel, research, internships and entrepreneurial activities

Pay It Forward

“Pay It Forward” is an important mantra in the Goodnight Scholars Program. Goodnight Scholars have an innate desire to use their talents to improve communities in North Carolina and beyond. Through collaboration with campus partners, K-12 schools and nonprofit organizations, Goodnight Scholars apply their talents and skills in service activities that lead to meaningful outcomes. Outreach and volunteer opportunities include:

International service-learning trip to Trinidad & Tobago and the Asa Wright Nature Centre to advocate for environmental conservation and sustainability
Domestic service-learning trip from North Carolina’s mountains to coast to promote STEM education
Goodnight Scholars LEGO Brick Build service event with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wake County
Volunteer opportunities with Science Olympiad
STEM Nights at local elementary schools
Participation in major community service organizations including Service Raleigh, Habitat for Humanity and the Kramden Institute

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Eligibility

Two Ways to Become a Goodnight Scholar

Prospective candidates who are interested in fall enrollment at NC State as either a first-year student or transfer student who meet the Goodnight Scholars Program’s eligibility criteria may be considered for an invitation to apply. For more information about our criteria and selection process, please visit goodnight.ncsu.edu/apply.