

# Mission Support Alliance News Release



March 24, 2010

For Immediate Release



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## **MSA AND WSU TRI-CITIES ANNOUNCE SUBSTANTIAL AWARD FOR STEM-FOCUSED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDER-REPRESENTED STUDENTS**

**RICHLAND, Wash.** - The Mission Support Alliance, LLC ( MSA), a Lockheed Martin/Jacobs/WSI Company, announced today that it is donating \$50,000 a year to Washington State University Tri-Cities for a 10-year commitment total of \$500,000. The announcement was made at a joint MSA/WSU-Tri-Cities press conference held at 11 a.m. at the MSA's headquarters located in Richland, Wash.

The donation establishes the **Mission Support Alliance STEM Scholarship Program**. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The majority of the fund will support scholarships to students at WSU Tri-Cities who are majoring in STEM disciplines; who carry a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0; and who are enrolled as full-time students qualifying as under-represented (i.e., Hispanic, Native American, African-American, Pacific Islander, women, and/or first generation to attend college). The scholarship award is renewable for up to four years as long as the recipient continues to meet this criteria. Multiple scholarships will be awarded to incoming freshmen or transfer students under the following award schedule:

- \$2,000/year to students with freshman academic status;
- \$1,000/year to students with sophomore academic status;
- \$1,000/year to students with junior academic status; and
- \$2,000/year to students with senior academic status.

Additionally, \$14,000 from the MSA's annual pledge of \$50,000 will be applied for the **Mission Support Alliance STEM Tutors** fund, providing academic support to STEM students at WSU Tri-Cities. These funds will focus on efforts to increase the number of under-represented students who pursue degrees in STEM disciplines to provide a local pipeline of industry-ready graduates in the sciences and engineering fields.

"The Mission Support Alliance believes strongly that our nation's technological advantage must be supported with a continuing supply of highly-trained and capable technical talent, to include the next generation of leaders from under-represented populations," said Frank Figueroa, president and general manager of MSA. "Our leadership commitment to WSU-Tri-Cities through this 10-year grant of \$500,000, will help WSU Tri-Cities build the next generation of highly technical workers and help the MSA identify high-potential prospective employees for our future."

The MSA scholarships will begin with the 2010-2011 academic year, and will be awarded according to WSU's Policy for Administering Financial Aid Restricted by Race, Gender, Color, Ethnicity or National Origin.

"MSA's desire for this gift to support under-represented students in the STEM disciplines dovetails perfectly with our vision for WSU Tri-Cities," Chancellor Vicky L. Carwein said. "We see tremendous student and employer demand for these degrees and our campus is proud to be the most diverse in the WSU system. With nearly 70 percent of our students receiving some sort of financial aid, MSA's gift supporting scholarships and tutoring services will truly change lives."

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**About the MSA**

The Mission Support Alliance is a team led by Lockheed Martin, Jacobs Engineering and WSI, and has responsibility for the Mission Support Contract at the Hanford Site. The MSA team provides a number of cross-cutting services to the DOE and other contractors at the Hanford site, such as safety, security and environment, site infrastructure and utilities, site business management, information resources and content management and portfolio management. Visit us at [www.msa-hanford.com](http://www.msa-hanford.com)

**About WSU Tri-Cities**

WSU Tri-Cities is located along the scenic Columbia River in Richland, Wash. Established in 1989 with upper division and graduate programs, WSU Tri-Cities expanded in 2007 to a full four-year undergraduate campus offering 17 bachelor's, 13 master's and six doctoral degrees. Learn more about the fastest growing and more diverse campus in the WSU system at [www.tricity.wsu.edu](http://www.tricity.wsu.edu).