

January 21, 2025

Dear BUILD Scholars,

Welcome back from winter break! I hope you all had a restful break and a warm holiday season, and that you are ready to dive into the spring semester.

As you know, Dr. Hsiu-Ping Liu – who led the BUILD program and directed the Center for Advanced STEM Education (CASE) – retired last September. I am very excited to share that I am taking over as the CASE Director. In this role, I will support all CASE programs and the STEM Learning Center, including the BUILD events outlined below. I look forward to getting to know you all this spring! Just as a reminder, Dr. Robert Niemeyer took over as Principal Investigator of the BUILD Program, with Dr. Mike Jacobs as Co-Investigator in the fall. Additionally, the BUILD Team: Elizabeth Simonton, Justin Wu, Linda Sivertson and Lori Taylor will continue supporting you throughout the semester.

The BUILD program aims to help you build your STEM identity and succeed in your education endeavors. Here are the events and available support services as you schedule your spring semester:

BUILD Scholar Commitments (<https://www.msudenver.edu/advanced-stem-education/build-scholarship-program/build-scholar-commitment-and-support/>):

- **Participate in four required events.** These required events are not meant to create obstacles in your academic journey. If you cannot attend a required event due to class, please contact us for a substitute event.
 - RM-AMP/BUILD Welcome Back, Wednesday, January 29, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., SI 3079
 - Professional Communication Workshop, Tuesday, February 18, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. SI 3079
 - Working Memory Workshop – Tim Blesse, Wednesday, April 23, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., SI 3079
 - RM-AMP/BUILD STEM Community Celebration Dinner, Thursday, April 3, St. Cajetan’s 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- **Participate in two optional events.** Check out our website for a list:
<https://www.msudenver.edu/advanced-stem-education/build-scholarship-program/build-scholar-commitment-and-support/>

If you attend an event that is not on our list, but you think should be counted as an optional event, please contact Elizabeth Simonton or Lori Taylor.

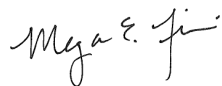
- **Meet with a BUILD Advisor once per semester.** Please reach out to Dr. Filbin mfilbin1@msudenver.edu or Dr. Mike Jacobs mjacob35@msudenver.edu for an appointment. We would love to see you early and throughout the semester.
- **Meet with a Peer Mentor once per semester.** This semester you have Bee James and Olivia Dampier as your Peer Mentors. You can find their schedules <https://www.msudenver.edu/advanced-stem-education/build-scholarship-program/build-scholar-commitment-and-support/>

BUILD Supports and Services

- **Participate in an internship, research project, or shadow an internship/research project.** Applications are due March 1st for Summer 2025. To apply, visit the following website: <https://www.msudenver.edu/advanced-stem-education/build-scholarship-program/build-scholar-commitment-and-support/>
- **STEM Tutoring:** We have tutors in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics. They are available Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. **in person** in the STEM Learning Center SI 1009. Please utilize this awesome resource and share it with your classmates and professors. The Spring 2025 tutoring schedule can be found on our website at <https://www.msudenver.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Tutorig-Schedule-Spring-2025.pdf>
- **Writing Tutoring:** Bonnie, Garrett and Matthew are available in the STEM Learning Center to assist you with papers, essays, scholarship applications, job applications, and resumes.
 - Their schedules can be found on our website at <https://www.msudenver.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Tutorig-Schedule-Spring-2025.pdf>
- **Scholarships:** Wu and CASE scholarships are available in the spring semester. Details on submission can be found on our website at: <https://www.msudenver.edu/advanced-stem-education/rm-amp/scholarships/> Your essays for these scholarships are due **March 1, 2025**
- **Research Grant:**
 - We will be awarding our RM-AMP Undergraduate **Summer Research Grants** at our April Celebration. You must have your application turned in by **March 1, 2025**. Send your application to Lori Taylor at ltaylor50@msudenver.edu . See the website <https://www.msudenver.edu/advanced-stem-education/build-scholarship-program/build-scholar-commitment-and-support/#apply-for-research%2finternship->
- **Book Borrowing Library:** Our Book Borrowing Library is growing thanks to your donations. We have textbooks for general biology, microbiology, genetics, general chemistry, organic chemistry, algebra, and calculus and more for you to borrow. It is on a first come first serve basis. Here is a link to our available books <https://www.msudenver.edu/advanced-stem-education/case-book-borrowing-library/>. Contact us for pickup.
- **Passport to Success:** The purpose of the passport program is to engage you in additional excellent opportunities and resources offered by the Center for Advanced STEM Education and the University. For more information, visit <https://www.msudenver.edu/advanced-stem-education/build-passport-to-success/>. You can pick up a Passport from Lori Taylor in SI 1051.

We are always interested in the progress you are making toward your degree. If you are graduating this spring, please let us know so we can celebrate your success. If you have any questions and/or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your continued participation in the program.

Sincerely,



Dr. Megan Filbin
Director, Center for Advance STEM Education
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