With funding from the National Science Foundation, the Carroll University Pro-STEM Initiative is providing support to low-income students with demonstrated financial need and academic promise to succeed in STEM disciplines at Carroll University. The project is funding scholarships for students who are pursuing bachelor’s degrees in applied physics, biochemistry, chemistry, computer science, and mathematics. To promote academic success and retention within these STEM majors, the program (1) incorporates self-efficacy building strategies in general education courses of Carroll University’s liberal arts curriculum, (2) fosters support of project goals through a faculty professional learning community populated by those who teach first-year courses in the targeted fields, and (3) uses peer-led study groups and community building activities that support self-efficacy and retention. This project applies Habits of Mind strategies and practices to build academic skills and self-awareness. Activities of the project contribute to the knowledge base on STEM retention and student academic success. The results further serve as a model to aid other small schools in increasing completion rates and effectively preparing students for success beyond college. (Received August 19, 2019)