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S-STEM: Building Foundations for Success in STEM. Preliminary report.

The S-STEM program at Calvin is aimed at improving retention in STEM via scholarships to cover a critical funding gap, an implementation of research-based classroom interventions and co-curricular supports, and a leveraging of existing university supports including the Calvin LifeWork program and research and internship opportunities. Each year a scholarship cohort of 15 students participates in an extended first-year seminar and benefit from proactive advising and mentoring. They also are assigned to special sections of introductory courses in computer science, chemistry, and mathematics. This talk is an overview of the program at Calvin including lessons learned during the first year and adjustments made for the second year. (Received September 14, 2020)