

Matthew Hill grew up in a household being the only child of three to pursue education beyond high school. His mother is the only person in his immediate family to attend college. Ever since elementary school he has earned a grade of A in all his math courses and this is what led him to become interested in receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics. Originally, he was only going to pursue a degree in biology, but he felt it would be nonsense to leave his math skills unused. During Matthew's high school career he was a part of Future Business Leaders of America, which granted him the opportunity to meet with business owners and obtain knowledge on how to navigate the management side of life. He also was a part of Distributive Education Clubs of America, which helped improve his people skills through the use of presentations in front of judges.

Matthew is currently enrolled at Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) and has earned a grade of A in all his math courses. He currently has a 3.75 overall GPA and a 4.0 GPA in STEM courses. He has attended the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation research symposium as well as the Vikings Enhancing STEM (VESTEM) workshop, while at ECSU. He also participated in the VESTEM Innovation and Collaboration Summer Sophomore Bridge Program and the Graduate Research Fellowship Program summer boot camp. Being a part of these programs has allowed him the opportunity to network with distinguished professors as well as familiarize himself with research topics and research presentations. He is currently a tutor for VESTEM which allows him the opportunity to assist students in need which serves to help him better communicate with individuals. Matthew is also a part of the Center of Excellence in Remote Sensing Education and Research (CERSER), which is a program designed to enrich the programming knowledge of gifted undergraduate students as well as provide research experience and tuition assistance. CERSER has given him knowledge in the areas of Python programming language, Mac operating system, and image manipulation programs.

Matthew plans to receive his bachelor's degree as a double major in Mathematics and Biology and continue his education to receive a Ph.D. in both subject areas. A dual major of biology and mathematics with a concentration in biotechnology would be an outstanding contribution to the scientific community. Having such a strong mathematical background will also help him towards his career aspirations in the field of computational science and bioinformatics. He believes that all students in some form no matter how old or young can learn and teach. Matthew also believes that the greater the area of the circle of knowledge the greater the circumference of the unknown. He plans to help contribute to increasing the area of this circle by achieving his goal of becoming a computational scientist through the use of software algorithms and mathematical equations as well as data analysis.