

# SWOSU Student Alfa Abame Wins National Award

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University student Alfa Abame of Stillwater has won an impressive national award.

Abame was one of 196 students from 36 states named as a Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact. The award recognizes inspiring college student leaders who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges in their community.

Abame, born in Ethiopia, is a sophomore biology major planning to be a pediatric endocrinologist. She has served to better communities across the state of Oklahoma. Abame worked with the County Youth Shelter in Stillwater, organizing clothes and food drives and paint and repair jobs. She volunteered time with Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, the Stillwater Public Library, and the Stillwater Humane Society.

A member of the SWOSU President's Leadership Class, Abame worked with the Backpack Program at Burcham Elementary and leads the Black Student Association's tutoring at Eastside Academy in Clinton. She is a member of student government, medical professions and biology clubs, serves on the Panorama Series committee, and she is a resident advisor in Oklahoma Hall.

Abame's ultimate goal is to help disadvantage children in her native country through a program like Doctors Without Borders.

Each Newman Civic Fellow receives a \$500 scholarship award from Oklahoma Campus Compact and is invited to be recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education at the April 24 monthly meeting. The Fellows will work with Oklahoma Campus Compact to extend service leadership opportunities to other students.