



# THE SMART PROGRAM AT NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL

## For students grades 6 -12

The SMART Program is a summer and school year program dedicated to promoting academic excellence. SMART focuses on preparing students for careers in the sciences and in health-related fields.

Pre-college students in grades 6–12 are able to maximize their learning experience through participation in one of the six SMART programs which is customized for each grade level. All courses within each program are designed to enhance the student’s knowledge base as well as enhance their critical thinking skills.

The SMART Program offers great exposure to students within a medical school setting and encourages interaction with doctors, medical students and other highly skilled professionals.

### **AN ENLIGHTENING ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

Academically, SMART students are able to participate in scientific and medical experiences that are pivotal in their growth process. SMART’s dedicated and highly skilled teachers provide the challenges and guidance necessary for SMART students to gain a truly thought-provoking and rare educational experience. SMART enables students to enhance their skills and provides the tools necessary to succeed in health-related careers. Individual programs include:

- Hands-on activities via applied sciences
- Problem solving and critical thinking
- Math
- Computers
- Interpersonal Communications
- Field Trips/Tours
- Guest speakers
- Oral & Written Presentations
- S.A.T. Preparation
- Career Exploration
- College Counseling
- Teamwork
- Leadership Training

### **THE WINTER SMART PROGRAM**

The Winter SMART program is a delightful experience which gently introduces participants to the biological sciences and provides an opportunity to learn what becoming a health professional involves. Our youngest students are given age appropriate creative activities to explore topics in human biology such as matter, energy and organization in human systems; diversity and biological evolution; basic anatomy; physics of motion, respiration, and injury prevention. With an established foundation of scientific curiosity and appreciation, our older students investigate connections between health, science and environment through case based learning and research. All classes incorporate computer use and field trips.

## **AN EXCITING AND ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE**

SMART students enjoy the program because the coursework is blended with various activities and events which are scheduled on a daily basis. Interaction between students from various cultural and academic backgrounds is encouraged through teamwork. Many of the SMART students form special relationships with new and interesting students.

One SMART Student summed up the program beautifully and relayed "I found the 2007 Program to be challenging, interesting, busy and fun. We had great teachers, fun activities and fun trips. I think this program will help me in the future."

Since the SMART Programs for the different ages are inter-related these relationships are cultivated when students come back year after year. The students are encouraged to come back year after year upon satisfactory completion of the program.

## **APPLYING TO THE SMART PROGRAM**

If you would like more information, or would like to receive an application for the SMART Program, please:

- call **973-972-5245**
- email: **Ms. Patricia Johnson** – Program Manager at: [smartprogram@umdnj.edu](mailto:smartprogram@umdnj.edu)
- download an application from our website: <http://nmjs.umdnj.edu/smart>

## **ACCEPTANCE INTO THE SMART PROGRAM**

The students that are accepted into the SMART Program are interested in pursuing health-related careers and are entering or currently in grades 6 through 12.

Acceptance into the SMART Program is based on grades, the student's career goals, interests and motivation for academic success (as shown by references, essays and other related activities), as well as good school attendance.

# THE SMART PROGRAMS

## **Young Explorers**

A gentle introduction to the biological sciences.

Sample topics include: Matter, energy and organization in human systems; genetics; diversity and biological evolution; and basic anatomy

**Applicants must currently be in 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade.**

## **Biotrek**

A program that explores human biology.

Sample topics: Body Systems, Muscles and Bones, Physics of Motion, Respiration, and Injury Prevention. Math, computers and lots of field trips are also included.

**Applicants must currently be in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.**

## **Fantastic Voyage**

A program of scientific discovery.

Sample topics: Flight, Sound, Circulatory System, Growth Rates, Ratios and Proportions, Tables and Graphs. Math, computers and lots of field trips are also included.

**Applicants must currently be in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.**

## **Enviroquest**

Explorations of connections between health, science and environment.

Emphasis on laboratory and research skills. Sample topics: Bacteria, Water, Lead Poisoning, Radioactivity. Lots of field trips are also included.

**Applicants must currently be in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.**

## **Mission Health**

Learn what becoming a health professional involves.

Emphasis on community service, investigation of various health problems and study of relevant human biology through laboratory experiments. Information retrieval is emphasized.

**Applicants must currently be in 10<sup>th</sup> grade.**

## **Biomedical Apprenticeships**

Participants work with professionals in classroom and clinical settings.

Advance Placement science courses are offered. S.A.T. Prep, College tours, college counseling, and lectures by health related professionals are also offered.

**Applicants must currently be in 11<sup>th</sup> grade.**