



## SMART Summer Program FAQs

**Q: When will the SMART Summer Program be held in 2018?**

**A:** The 2018 Summer Program will be held for 5 weeks, July 2 – August 3, 2018, Monday-Friday, 9am – 3pm except where noted on schedule

**Q: Who can attend the Summer SMART Program?**

**A:** New Jersey residents who are currently in grades 6 through 11 are eligible to apply. Preference is given to students in Essex County.

**Q: How can my child participate in the Summer SMART Program?**

**A:** SMART takes a holistic approach to selecting students. The completed application, teacher's recommendation, transcripts and student essay are thoroughly reviewed and must be submitted by the deadline. The selection committee reviews applications on a rolling basis (as they come in) for the limited number of seats in each class. Because of this seats may be full before the deadline and qualified students who apply later in the cycle may be placed on the wait list.

**Q: What can my child expect to learn from the program?**

**A:** You can expect your child to be engaged with a holistic approach to the medical sciences. There may be some content that they are familiar with, however the combined activities and presentations challenges the application of science curriculum. Your child will engage in discussions with professionals from the medical field. Research informs us that repetition solidifies learning.

**Q: Are vaccinations required?**

**A:** Yes

**Q: Is financial aid available?**

**A:** Financial aid is prioritized to Newark students, based on family income.

**Q: Does my child have to have a specific Grade Point Average (GPA) to be eligible to attend the program?**

**A:** There are no specific GPA guidelines. We seek students with the greatest potential for development in health sciences.

**Q: Who are the SMART Program Teachers?**

**A:** The SMART Program instructors are NJ certified science teachers, New Jersey Medical School Medical, Dental, and Graduate students.

**Q: How are students placed in their classes?**

**A:** Students are placed according to grade level with no exceptions.

**Q: Are parents/guardians involved in any of the SMART Program events?**

**A:** Yes, parent involvement is very important to us. We understand that the most consistent predictors of a student's academic achievement and social adjustment are parent involvement. SMART hosts events which enable parents to engage in activities with and celebrate the successes of their children. Parent/guardian volunteers are welcome. Parents/guardians are also welcome to sit in on all of our guest lectures.

**Q: What are the non-classroom educational experiences?**

**A:** Students are exposed to host of speakers from many scientific disciplines.

**Q: Will my child receive a New Jersey Medical School ID card.**

**A:** No, students will not receive a NJMS ID Card.

**Q: Is housing available for the summer program?**

**A:** No.

**Q: I have a scheduled vacation which will require my child to be absent 2 or more days, can my child still attend the program?**

**A:** No. Students will be allowed to miss one day for educational purposes only. We will need documentation showing this. If a child is sick, a doctor's note is needed. Otherwise the child will be removed from the program.

**Q: Can my child attend the SMART Program for multiple years?**

**A:** Yes, each class's curriculum is customized. Students who are in **good-standing** are encouraged to re-apply. Please note that the applicant pool changes from year to year and previous participation does not guarantee readmission due to the limited number of seats in each class.

**Q: Are there other programs that my child can enter once they have completed the 12<sup>th</sup> grade and are no longer eligible for the SMART Program?**

**A:** There are no programs for students who have completed 12<sup>th</sup> grade and are entering college, however, there are programs available once students have completed the first year of college. Links to the New Jersey Medical School college program websites are below.

- I. **Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) Program.** Visit [www.shep.org](http://www.shep.org) for more information
- II. **Northeast Regional Alliance Medprep Scholars Program (NERA).** Visit [www.neramedprep.org](http://www.neramedprep.org) for more information