



The Summer Mentorship Program (SMP) gives high school students of Indigenous or African ancestry a chance to explore health sciences at the University of Toronto over four weeks in July.

You will:

- Explore health science education and careers through handson activities, experiments, lectures, and special projects
- Learn from and connect to a variety of health science faculty, professionals, and students
- Enjoy valuable mentoring experiences from a variety of professionals
- Earn a credit you can use on your University and/or College applications

WHAT YOU LEARN

If you participate in the program, you'll gain some of the skills you need to further your academic and professional career. You'll get to try your hand at a variety of health science professions, including medicine, dentistry, kinesiology, medical radiation sciences, nursing, pharmacy, public health, and social work. You'll need to complete various exercises and assignments with your teacher during the four-week program.

You'll also be connected to a student-mentor who is studying in a health science field of interest to you. You'll meet the mentors at the beginning of the program, and you'll be encouraged to keep up this relationship once the program is completed. You'll also be able to connect with and learn from various health professionals to give you deeper insight into a variety of health science careers.

We want to provide you with the skills you need to be a successful student and professional. The health sciences are a broad field with a vast range of career opportunities and we're here to help you find a career that's right for you.

WHAT YOU EARN

Students who attend a provincially funded Ontario school can earn a credit in Science, Grade 12 University/College Preparation (SNC4M). That's a credit that will be applied to your Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). To be eligible, you must be 16 years of age by June 30. You must have completed a Grade 10 Science, Academic or any Grade 11 university (U), university/college (M), or college (C) preparation course in the science curriculum. Preference will be given to grade 11 students that are returning to school for at least one semester.

DEADLINES

There are two deadlines for the Summer Mentorship Program. Space is limited, so we encourage applicants to apply as early as possible.

January 12, 2024
First application deadline

January 15 - 19, 2024 Email sent to arrange for interviews

February 10 - 11, 2024

First round interviews

February 13 - 20, 2024

Offers emailed to first round applicants

March 22, 2024

Final application deadline

March 25 - 29, 2024

Email sent to arrange for interviews

April 13, 14 and 20, 2024

Second round interviews

April 22 - 26, 2024

Offers emailed to applicants

July 2 - 26, 2024

Summer Mentorship Program Period

Application available at

www.temertymedicine.utoronto.ca / summer-mentorship-program





HISTORY OF SMP

The SMP was founded in 1994 by the Faculty of Medicine and the Toronto District School Board, together with the Association for the Advancement of Blacks in the Health Sciences. The program was created to help address concerns about the under-representation of Black and Indigenous people within the health sciences. The key individuals who contributed significantly to establish the SMP were Dr. Miriam Rossi, Dr. Dominick Shelton, Diana Alli, Harold Braithwaite, Gerry Connelly, Dr. Kristine Whitehead, Fred Chan and Kelvin Andrews.

In running the SMP, we work with the faculties of Dentistry, Kinesiology and Physical Education, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, Social Work, the Office of Indigenous Medical Education, First Nations House, Black Physicians Association of Ontario, several school boards in the Greater Toronto Area, including TDSB, TCDSB, YRDSB, and DPCDSB, and Indigenous communities outside of Toronto.

Over 28 years, the SMP has had more than 1400 students complete the program — and many of those students have since entered professional faculties and health care professions. Every year, we invite more than 100 students to participate in the four-week program. In 2023, we aim to run the SMP in-person at the U of T St. George campus. In an effort to address the under-representation of Black men and Indigenous people in the health sciences, we highly encourage these two groups to apply to the program.

Summer Mentorship Program in Health Sciences