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UNH Project SMART Offers New Scholarships to NH HS Students

DURHAM, N.H. – Up to 25 promising high school students from New Hampshire will share \$50,000 in scholarships to attend <u>Project SMART</u>, the University of New Hampshire's residential summer institute focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

The scholarships, which range from \$1,000 to \$3,700 for the four-week institute, will go to high-achieving students entering 10th and 11th grade. Amounts awarded will be based on merit and demonstrated financial need.

"As New Hampshire and the nation strive to meet the growing demand for a STEM-educated workforce, these scholarships will serve to prime the STEM pipeline by removing financial barriers to this outstanding program," says Mark Rubinstein, vice president of student and academic services at UNH.

Founded in 1992, Project SMART drew students only from New Hampshire for its first five years; they attended the program at no cost. In recent years, however, students from around New England, the nation, and select international schools have far outnumbered those from New Hampshire; just about a quarter of the 45 students have been Granite Staters.

"This scholarship fund will be a real boost for bringing Project SMART back to New Hampshire," says Project SMART founder and director Subhash Minocha, professor of plant biology and genetics at UNH. "We are grateful to President Huddleston for designating this scholarship funding to Project SMART."

Project SMART (Science and Mathematics Achievement Research Training), which runs July 1-25, 2014 at UNH, offers hands-on research-based learning in three modules: biotechnology and nanotechnology, space science, and marine and environmental science. Students live in UNH residence halls, undertake authentic research projects alongside UNH faculty, and participate in field trips around the state while earning UNH credits.

Project SMART receives support from the UNH <u>College of Life Sciences and Agriculture</u>, the <u>College of Engineering and Physical Sciences</u>, the <u>New Hampshire Space Grant Consortium</u>, <u>NH EPSCoR</u> Grant from NSF, and private foundations and companies. To learn more about Project SMART, or to apply, go to http://www.smart.unh.edu/index.html.

The <u>University of New Hampshire</u>, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea, and space-grant university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 12,300 undergraduate and 2,200 graduate students.



2014 Scholarships - \$2.7 million available!

Dear Colleague,

Students can begin applying to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation on Monday, February 3, 2014 -- over \$2.7 million will be awarded this year! The Foundation uses an on-line application form for the majority of its scholarship resources. This on-line process allows students to submit a single application and to be automatically considered for all participating scholarships. Details are on our website at . Visit our website

\$500,000 will be awarded to students studying in the STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math). We hope you will make a special effort to direct these students to the "STEM Scholars" application on our website.

There is a guide to the online application process available to download from our website for you and your students: Application Guide link.

Please be aware that students will need an electronic copy of their high school transcript (it does NOT need to be official); an electronic copy of the FAFSA results and valid email addresses for at least 2 individuals willing to write a recommendation (one of which should NOT be a school official - see firewall issues below).

The on-line application generates an invitation directly to the email of the individual selected by the student this is a great savings in time and paper. Unfortunately, some school firewalls may block the automatically generated email message from our webmaster or block access to the scholarship site when a recommender clicks on the link they receive. To prevent this, we recommend that your technical department open the school firewall to: https://nhcf.scholarships.ngwebsolutions.com in order to accommodate student requests. Additionally, your technical team may want to add the IP address to the "white list". The IP address is 12.228.6.215. These simple steps will greatly increase the chances that students' requests for recommendations will be received in a timely manner.

If you need help with this issue or have other questions, please contact me at jb@nhcf.org or call 1-800-464-6641. We want to make the on-line process as user friendly as possible.

Please pass on this information to any of your colleagues who work with graduating high school seniors OR returning college students.

Thank you,

Judith Burrows Director of Student Aid