

Jump Start Program

**Sponsored by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute
and the College of Life Sciences, University of Maryland**

The Jump Start Program will invite 120 promising young scientists to participate in a week-long summer science immersion program at the University of Maryland. The program is jointly sponsored by the College of Life Sciences, University of Maryland and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). HHMI supports programs that promote knowledge of the basic sciences and enhance the training of future biomedical scientists.

Students considering a career in the sciences will have the opportunity to learn about the research process and experience the excitement of discovery. In addition to carrying out laboratory investigations, students will participate in seminars and professional development workshops. Participants will be awarded a stipend of \$250 upon completion of the program.

Program Description:

There are three themes planned for the summer 2003 Jump Start Program:

Forensic Science (offered Sessions 1 & 2)	Students will learn modern biological techniques (including analytical chemistry, entomology, DNA electrophoresis) that are used to solve crimes.
Biotechnology (offered Sessions 1, 2 & 3)	Students will study how biological systems can be genetically altered to produce products that are important to humans (e.g., food and medicine). The program includes a field trip to the National Museum of Health and Medicine. Due to the intensive nature of this session, we recommend that applicants have completed Advanced Placement Biology or the equivalent.
Animal Behavior and Physiology (offered Session 3)	This program will focus on the behavioral and physiological characteristics of animals that allow them to be successful in their respective environments. The program includes a field trip to the National Zoological Park.

There will be three one-week sessions offered, beginning July 14. The program will run from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day. Students will have a lunch break from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM, during which they may purchase lunch from one of the many vendors at the Stamp Student Union. **Participants are responsible for transportation to and from campus each day; no on-site housing is available.**

- Session 1: July 14-18
- Session 2: July 21-25
- Session 3: July 28-August 1

Qualifications:

The program is open to high school students who will be entering their junior or senior year in the fall of 2003 (i.e., those who will graduate in 2004 or 2005). Far more students apply for the program than can be accommodated, so we are unfortunately unable to consider applications from freshmen and seniors. Participants will be selected on the basis of a personal statement, high school coursework and grade point average (GPA), SAT or PSAT scores (if available), and teacher recommendations. Recommendations may come from teachers in any discipline; they need not come from science teachers. For the Biotechnology sessions, applicants will also be evaluated on the strength of their preparation in the biological sciences.

Applications consist of:

- Application form
- Personal statement (see application form)
- High school transcript
- Courses in progress and semester grades (if not included on transcript)
- Letter of recommendation from one of your teachers

Return completed applications to: Dr. Kaci Thompson, Director
Jump Start Program
1313 Symons Hall
College of Life Sciences
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

301-405-3353
HHMI@umail.umd.edu

Applications must be postmarked by **March 28, 2003**. Applicants will be notified of the admissions committee's decision shortly after April 15, 2003.

Jump Start 2003 Program Application

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Name:

U.S. social security number:

Address:

Home phone number (including area code):

E-mail address:

Birthdate (month/day/year):

Sex: Male Female

Please check the appropriate box below: The information on this item is requested solely for the purpose of determining compliance with federal civil rights laws. Your response is completely voluntary and will not affect consideration of your application. By providing this information, you will assist us in assuring that this program is administered in a nondiscriminatory manner.

American Indian Black Asian or Pacific Islander Hispanic White Other

High school(s) attended:

Projected year of graduation from high school:

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA):

PSAT score (if available):

SAT score (if available):

Preferred session (select ONLY ONE):

Session 1 (July 14-18)

Session 2 (July 21-25)

Session 3 (July 28-Aug 1)

Forensic Science

Forensic Science

Animal Behavior and
Physiology

Biotechnology

Biotechnology

Biotechnology

Alternate sessions (if preferred session is not available):

Please check any that apply:

I wish to have my name, place of residence, phone number and email address distributed to other participants in my session to facilitate carpooling.

I have special dietary requirements for the closing barbecue (e.g., kosher, vegetarian, etc.). Please specify _____

Additional application materials (must accompany completed application form):

- High school transcript
- Courses in progress and semester grades (if not included on transcript)
- Letter of recommendation from a teacher
- Personal statement (**choose only one**):
 - In a one-page essay, describe a person or pivotal event that helped define your interest in science.
 - In a one-page essay, tell us about something that stimulates your curiosity. Where has your curiosity led you?

Signature of applicant

Signature of parent

Date

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