How SMART Works

Through a combination of reading, enrichment and communication, our program is designed to inspire students to keep reading throughout the summer and participate in enrichment opportunities with a college mentor. Part of our success is due to our low tutor to student ratio, while other strengths of this program reside outside the classroom. Beyond academics, this mentorship also exposes students to a number of opportunities, and introduces participants to community organizations and events on local campuses. We also strive to maintain and increase the reading comprehension, vocal presentation, communication, organization and preparation of skills gained throughout the academic school year.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply to attend our Summer Mentoring and Reading Together (SMART) program, use the QR code below to apply online or contact Laura to request paper forms. +20 spots available per location. Registration fills up quickly. There will be a waitlist available.

Equal Opportunity

The University of Wisconsin–La Crosse is committed to equal opportunity in its educational program, activities and employment policies for all persons regardless of race, color, gender, creed, religion, age, ancestry, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital or parental status.

CONTACT US

Laura Lauderdale
Precollege Coordinator
llauderdale@uwlax.edu
(608) 785–8928

Address
Office of Multicultural Student Services
1101 Centennial Hall
1725 State Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Website
https://www.uwlax.edu/multicultural-student-services/pre-college-staff/pre-college-summer/

WHO WE SERVE
MULTICULTURAL AND LOW-INCOME STUDENTS ATTENDING SCHOOL IN LA CROSSE AND SURROUNDING DISTRICTS.

WHAT WE DO
MONDAY/WEDNESDAY OR TUESDAY/THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSIONS. (SEE “OUR LOCATIONS” SECTION FOR MORE DETAILS)

WHY WE CARE
BECAUSE OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON THE SUCCESS OF OUR YOUTH!
SMART is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Student Services at the University of Wisconsin– La Crosse. The Pre-College programs provide academic year tutoring and enrichment, a summer reading component, summer camp opportunities and ongoing mentoring for multicultural students in La Crosse and surrounding communities. The purpose is to assist youth in specific academic subjects to help youth develop more effective study skills and to provide enrichment and recreational activities.

College students and local professionals will promote understanding, self-awareness, cultural awareness, and appreciation among participating youth. Our college student staff members, volunteers, and adult professionals are from various backgrounds and include positive role models who have the future of our youth as their highest priority.

Shared Vision

Respect is the shared vision that informs all pre-college programs offered by the UW- La Crosse Office of Multicultural Student Services. It is through respect for the wisdom and truth of all people and traditions, and through an understanding of current academic knowledge, that we can encourage our youth to forge a hopeful and peaceful tomorrow. To fulfill this promise requires high integrity, intensity, and real commitment to education, self-discipline, and respect for self, others and the sanctity of all life.

Program Highlights

Academic Success

A high emphasis is placed on helping students to reach their academic goals. 1-on-1 and small group tutoring allows students to get help in subject areas where they may need extra assistance. Many summer mentors have backgrounds in education and find exciting ways to make reading fun!

Enrichment

Enrichment incorporates a variety of fun theme based activities. Activities include: games, crafts, team building exercises, outdoor recreation, and more! During this time both youth and mentors are encouraged to participate.

Relationship Building

Research proves that risk factors go down significantly when children are surrounded by caring adults, positive programming and a safe environment. Building meaningful relationships is the key to helping youth develop both academically and emotionally.