SMART Program
Summer Multicultural Access to Research Training

University of Colorado at Boulder
Colorado Diversity Initiative
www.colorado.edu/smart
SMART is a 10-week summer research program for undergraduate students who are interested in preparing for graduate school in a science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) field. The program provides hands-on experience in research and an introduction to graduate education at a leading university. The goal of the SMART program is to increase diversity among PhD recipients and future faculty members.
Each summer, SMART offers 20 to 25 outstanding students the opportunity to conduct research under the guidance of a faculty mentor. SMART interns carry out their projects and participate in workshops designed to enhance their research experience and strengthen their preparation for graduate school.

**Program Dates**: Early June to early August (10 weeks)
The Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP) is one of the many laboratories across campus where SMART students have the opportunity to conduct their research each year.

- Aerospace Engineering Sciences
- Applied Mathematics
- Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences
- Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences
- Behavioral Genetics
- Chemical and Biological Engineering
- Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering
- Computer Science
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- Electrical, Computer, and Energy Engineering
- Geological Sciences
- Integrative Physiology
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
- Neuroscience
- Physics
Each intern is paired with a CU-Boulder faculty mentor. Faculty mentors, who volunteer their time, are chosen for their excellence in research and scholarly work and their commitment to undergraduate research. The mentors themselves review the applications and select the interns.
Professional workshops are held weekly and include topics such as writing a research proposal, preparing for the GRE, applying to graduate school, preparing a scientific paper, and writing a final research paper.
Students must:

• Be 18 years or older

• Be U.S. citizens or permanent residents

• Be members of racial/ethnic groups severely underrepresented in science, math, and engineering (African American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Pacific Islander), or be first-generation college students who are economically disadvantaged

• Have completed their second year of undergraduate study (the equivalent of 60 semester credit hours) by June of the year during which they apply

• Not earn a BA/BS before December of the year they participate

Linda Nguyen worked in Dr. Robert Spencer’s neuroscience lab. She looked at the health effects resulting from long-term stress.
Students receive a competitive stipend, room and board in a CU-Boulder residence hall, round-trip transportation, and three hours of upper-division undergraduate independent study credit.

Financial Support

*Michael Philippe-Auguste worked in Dr. Tin Tin Su's molecular biology lab. His research explored the effects of radiation on cancerous cells.*
Dennis Gardner worked in Dr. Ivan Smalyukh’s physics lab, where he conducted research on nanoparticles using liquid crystal matter.

Applications can be downloaded from our website at www.colorado.edu/SMART. For more information, please contact the SMART office at 303-735-3122 or smart@colorado.edu. **Application Deadline:** Postmarked by February 15
Not only am I leaving with practical use of electrical engineering and the ability to do research, but I also made great friends that I will never forget.... This was an incredible experience.

My mentor was great. She never hesitated to answer any of my questions and the lab environment was very pleasant. I loved my lab!

This is by far the best summer program I have attended. Not only were we exposed to great research opportunities, but we got to experience other aspects of life. I learned more in one summer about physics than I have all through college.

The laboratories are awesome, the experiments are interesting. I was really a part of what was going on, not just doing busy work.

The research lab was amazing and the support of the people working in the program really made the experience better.

Best overall experience of my life....
Each year the SMART interns have a chance to stand on the Continental Divide in Rocky Mountain National Park.

During weekends, students experience outdoor life in Colorado.
CU's challenge course provides opportunities for team building among SMART interns.

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