



STEM Outreach - College of Science, Technology, and Health

Maine SMART High School Research Program

Instructions

Please complete this form to confirm eligibility for the 2026 Maine High School Research Program. The second page of this form is to be filled out by a teacher that can vouch for a potential student's ability to participate in this program.

The Maine SMART High School Research Sessions are funded by the National Science Foundation and are designed to be a mentored opportunity for students with good academic standing.

Any student who resides in Maine is eligible to participate, providing they can have a teacher from their school vouch for their academic ability.

If you attend Portland Public Schools, and have received a password from a teacher or staff member, you may skip the second page by entering the password here:

PPS Password: _____

Once the form has been completed, you can upload it on UltraCamp. It should appear as an unfinished task on your account home page. If you run into any problems, get in touch with us at usmstem@maine.edu.



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Dear teacher or administrator,

A student from your school or district is requesting inclusion in the Maine SMART High School Research Program. This is an EPSCoR, National Science Foundation funded program to promote a deep understanding of the research process and community in Maine.

The majority of the program is grant funded with only a small percentage of the cost being carried by the student and family. Scholarships are also available for that percentage if needed. The program sessions are week-long programs on the University of Southern Maine's Portland campus. Students will be with us from 9:00 am until 3:30 from Monday through Friday.

You are being asked to verify that the student listed below is capable of grade level work, particularly in the areas of science. Also that they are capable of working in a team environment. Students will explore all aspects of the research process during the 35 hour week, while also conducting a research project. In 2026, our focus is on algae, but no prior experience in that area is required.

Student: _____ School: _____

Teacher: _____

Recommendation:

- ☐ I highly recommend this student for the program
- ☐ I recommend this student for the program
- ☐ I cannot recommend this student for the program

Teacher/administrator signature

Date

You can either return this form to the student for upload to our website or you can email it directly to: usmstem@maine.edu and include "Maine SMART Reference" in the subject.

Thank you,

The team at USM STEM Outreach