

UAMS News Bureau

Office of Communications & Marketing
4301 West Markham # 890
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

uamshealth.com/news



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Media Contacts:

Leslie W. Taylor, 501-686-8998
Wireless phone: 501-951-7260
leslie@uams.edu

Yavonda Chase, 501-686-8994
Wireless phone: 501-416-0354
yavonda@uams.edu

**UAMS Accepting Applications
for Pathways Academy for K-12 Students**

LITTLE ROCK — The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is now accepting applications from K-12 students for the Pathways Academy program.

Pathways Academy is an innovative educational and community engagement program focused on preparing low-income K-12 students for educational and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, math and health sciences (STEM-H) disciplines.

The Pathways Academy programs are free of charge with funding support from the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services. The comprehensive programs target students enrolled in Arkansas public schools in five pilot site areas including Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Springdale, Pine Bluff and Little Rock with plans to expand statewide over the next four years.

The programs consist of four STEM-H academies: Junior STEM Academy (grades K-5); Senior STEM Academy (grades 6-8); Research Academic Mentoring Pathway for Underrepresented Populations (RAMP-UP) (grades 9-12); and Student Athlete STEM Academy (SASA) (grades 9-12).

The Junior and Senior STEM Academies are designed to immerse young scholars in a world of science that focuses on health while incorporating technology, engineering and mathematics. In addition to STEM-H, the program integrates concepts relating to mental health and wellness such as cyber-bullying and emotional intelligence. The pilot programs will be available in Hot Springs, Springdale, Pine Bluff and Little Rock.

RAMP-UP is a yearlong program designed to act as a springboard for disadvantaged or underserved students who would not ordinarily have access to opportunities for growth and development in the medical professions or other STEM careers. Formerly known as the Academy of Pre-Health Scholars, RAMP-UP facilitates an academic pipeline for students who have strong interests in health care professions. This program was created to ensure a smooth transition from secondary education to collegiate academics. The pilot program will be available in Jonesboro, Pine Bluff and Little Rock.

The SASA program is designed to facilitate collaborative efforts of medical professions and athletic scholars. This program will allow for scholars who have strong interests in health care professions and athletics to be able to do both. The program is a springboard for athletic scholars who would not ordinarily have opportunities for growth and development to pursue careers in health care or other STEM fields. The pilot program will be available in Little Rock.

Applications for all Pathways Academy programs will be accepted through February, with selections taking place in March. The programs will have a soft launch in May. Summer intensive camps will take place in June.

To apply, visit <https://ddei.uams.edu/pathways-academy/>

For more information, please contact the Pathways Academy team at PathwaysAcademyTeam@uams.edu

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; a hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute and Institute for Digital Health & Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. *U.S. News & World Report* recognized UAMS Medical Center as a Best Hospital for 2021-22; ranked its ear, nose and throat program among the top 50 nationwide for the third year; and named five areas as high performing — colon cancer surgery, diabetes, hip replacement, knee replacement and stroke. *Forbes* magazine ranked UAMS as seventh in the nation on its Best Employers for Diversity list. UAMS also ranked in the top 30% nationwide on *Forbes'* Best Employers for Women list and was the only Arkansas employer included. UAMS has 3,047 students, 873 medical residents and fellows, and six dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 10,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit www.uams.edu or www.uamshealth.com. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

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