

Multicultural Apprenticeship Program

June 12– August 7, 2015

Audience

Target Group: 25 high school students in 10th and 11th grade from across the state.

Funding

The Multicultural Apprenticeship Program (MAP) is jointly funded by the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Background

MAP was designed to identify students interested in pursuing a degree in agriculture and natural resources at Michigan State University. The MAP program was established to reach out to students who have had to overcome significant obstacles, who exhibit leadership skills, and who otherwise would not have the opportunity to participate in a challenging university preparatory program.

Objectives

MAP was developed to accomplish multiple objectives:

- To encourage program participants to graduate from high school.
- To prepare high school youth for success in post-secondary education.
- To expose students to majors and career opportunities in agriculture and natural resources.
- To assist in recruiting students from non-traditional backgrounds to fulfill career pipe-line needs in agriculture and natural resources.
- To ensure students understand the post-secondary application process.

Description

MAP is a six-week residential program emphasizing a research experience for high school students in grades 10 through 11th who demonstrate academic talent and indicate a strong interest in science, agriculture or natural resources and related disciplines. MAP students are matched with CANR faculty members to work on a research project, whereby participants gain hands-on experience in a variety of laboratory and field research events. Beyond hands-on research projects, participants have close interaction with program peers, faculty and professionals. Selection into the program is competitive and involves a selection committee that consists of faculty and staff from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Major and Career Areas of Emphasis

Beyond research experience, participants in the program are exposed to the following majors in hopes of filling the need for critical masses of professionals addressing local,

state and global ANR issues and challenges: Agribusiness Management, Food Industry Management, Environmental Economics and Policy, Animal Science, Biosystems and Agriculture Engineering, Community Sustainability, Entomology, Fisheries and Wildlife, Food Science and Human Nutrition, Forestry, Horticulture, Packaging, Planning, Design and Construction and Fields of Plant, Soil and Microbial Science.

Outcomes

Through MAP, participants have the opportunity to experience college life for six weeks. Outcomes associated with the program include exposure to future educational and career opportunities in agricultural, food and nutrition, built environments as well as natural resources related fields. MAP participants also enjoy field trips, leadership seminars, a speaker series, and a number of social/cultural activities. Each MAP student is provided with preparatory assistance and materials for taking the SAT with the goal of 100% of participants applying to an institution of higher education. At the completion of the MAP program, students submit a final paper and give a 5-7 minute oral presentation on their experiences in the program.

Costs

Students participate in MAP free of charge. The program is supported by the MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, College Veterinary Medicine, and a number of public and private agencies and corporations. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from MSU over the six-week period.

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