

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center Academy

UPMC HILLMAN CANCER CENTER ACADEMY

Member of the STEM PUSH Network

Hillman Academy is an immersive, mentored 7-8 week summer research program providing cutting-edge research across eight sites, including Cancer Biology, Surgical Oncology, Computer Science, Biology, and Biomedical Informatics.

Hillman recruits in partnership with Pittsburgh Public Schools and local Community Based Organizations. We offer preparatory experiences to a diverse group of students who want to pursue higher education and careers in STEM fields.

One third of summer academy participants enter into the two-year, year-round program.

Hillman Center emphasizes & develops several targeted outcomes, including:

- Authentic college-level research
- Scientific reasoning skills
- Problem identification and problem solving
- STEM identity & sense of belonging
- Awareness of STEM opportunities/careers

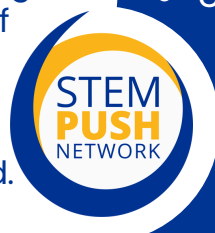


Students demonstrate these skills through the development of a scientific presentation and creating an Abstract. Year-long students also compete in poster presentations at local and national science fairs.

About STEM PUSH

STEM PUSH, founded as an NSF INCLUDES Alliance, is a national network of out-of-school-time programs that provide 100+ hours of authentic STEM through no-cost experiences for high schoolers, most of whom are historically underrepresented in STEM. Together, programs engage in continuous improvement toward broadening participation in STEM through college & beyond. Learn more at stempushnetwork.org.

Updated October 2025



Program Features

Medicine & Computer Science



STEM Focus

80 students per year

280+ hours of STEM through the 7-8 week summer program

750+ hours of STEM through the 2-year, stipended program

75% of students in current cohorts are under-represented in STEM and each earns a stipend

Program Results

95% of Hillman Academy alumni attend college and earn undergraduate degrees

91% of college-goers persist in STEM fields through college

Alum attend colleges including:

- Carnegie Mellon University
- Harvard University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Stanford University
- University of Pittsburgh

Connect with Hillman!

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