



Schools Mentoring and Resource Team



The SMART Mission is to provide motivated financially-disadvantaged students with educational opportunities, personal experiences and social support services in order to foster academic excellence and community engagement.

2010 NEW STUDENT APPLICATION

Applications are due on Monday March 15, 2010

COMPONENTS OF A COMPLETE APPLICATION

- ___ **1. Student Statement (4 pages)**
- ___ **2. Statement of Commitment Form (1 page)**
- ___ **3. Parent or Guardian Application (4 pages)**
- ___ **4. Verification of Household Income (2 pages)**
- ___ **4. Teacher Statement and Reference Form (3 pages)**
- ___ **5. Principal Form (1 page)**

Please contact Zackaria if you have any questions: zackaria@thesmartprogram.org, 415-865-5400

All forms should be mailed or dropped off at:

**Zackaria Gaines
SMART
1345 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103**



IMPORTANT DATES

APPLICATIONS DUE: Monday March 15, 2010

SMART ADMISSIONS SATURDAY: Saturday April 10th and Saturday April 17th

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION: Saturday, May 29, 11:30am-1:30pm
Each student and her/his parent(s)/guardian(s) must attend.

2010 SUMMER PROGRAM: Monday through Friday from July 12 through July 30 (9:00am-1:00pm). Daily attendance is mandatory. Students have an average of 2 hours of homework each night.

2010 SUMMER BBQ: Saturday, July 31 is our all-program summer BBQ celebration in Golden Gate Park.

2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday 4:30-7:00pm.
All accepted students are required to attend at least twice a week during the school year.

When do I find out if I've been accepted into the program?

If you are invited to the next stage, SMART Admissions Saturday, you will be notified by mail by April 2, 2010. The SMART Admissions Saturdays will take place on **Saturday April 10 and Saturday April 17**. The applicants who make it to this round will come to SMART for a half day, where they will take part in an interview and two short assessments. NOTE: You will also receive a letter if you have not been moved to the second round of the admissions process.



Due March 15th
SMART Student Application

Student Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Please answer the following questions.

A. In your opinion, what is the difference between private school and public school?

Please write 2-3 complete sentences.

B. How would your friends describe you?

Please write 2-3 complete sentences.

C. How much time on average do you spend on homework each night? _____

D. Do you find work at school (check one): too easy _____ too hard _____ about right _____

E. Why do you want to be a part of SMART?



F. What responsibilities do you have in your home?

G. If you could do or be anything in the world for one day, what would it be? Why?

H. SMART **includes a three-week summer program and an after-school program.** Why do you want to spend your summer and after-school time here? What do you hope to gain from the program?

I. "The thing I love most about myself is..."



Personal Essays

These essay questions are designed to help us get to know you as an individual. Please use a pen to write your answer and **please answer on a separate piece of paper**. We suggest that you write a draft first (in order to practice what you are going to say) and then neatly write (HANDWRITTEN, not typed) your final draft, attaching it to this form. **Please choose ONE of the two questions to answer. Your answer should be 6-8 sentences.**

1. Describe a community that you are a part of (your school, your neighborhood, your family, your church, etc.) and tell us why you like being a part of it.
2. If you were the Principal at your school, what would you change about it? Why?



CREATIVE SPACE!

Use the space below to tell us about yourself. Fill it up! Use your creativity. Make a page with pictures, drawings, poetry, short story, comic strip, a collage or whatever else **shows** us more about who you are!

By signing below, I am stating that: the information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge, and all responses to questions came only from me.

Student Signature _____ Date _____



Statement of Commitment from Student and Family

New Student Orientation:

All accepted students must attend the mandatory summer orientation which will be held on Saturday, May 29 from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Students must attend with a parent, guardian or older family member. Can you commit to attending this event?

Yes

No

If no, please explain any conflicts or concerns:

Summer Program:

During the summer program (Monday through Friday from July 12 to July 30, students are expected to be at the school from 9am to 1:30pm. Attendance is mandatory at the three-week summer program. You will need to plan family events around program dates. Except in the case of illness, students who miss more than two days will be asked to leave the program. Can you commit to these dates?

Yes

No

If no, please explain any conflicts or concerns:

Alumni Services:

SMART students are expected to stay involved with the SMART program throughout their middle school and high school years. Students will receive academic and extracurricular support throughout this time. Students can come back to volunteer during high school and/or participate in the SMART Alumni Advisory Board. Can you commit to taking part in our continued services?

Yes

No

If no, please explain any conflicts or concerns:

By signing this application, I authorize SMART to have access to the student's grades and test scores for his/ her remaining school years regardless of the student's acceptance to the program.

I have completed this application truthfully and to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information given will result in an automatic withdrawal of the application.

Student's signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____



Due March 15th
SMART Parent/ Guardian Application

Student Information

Name of Student (First, Middle, Last): _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Male _____ Female _____ Birth Date _____

Home Phone _____ Student Cell _____

Student Email Address (if any) _____

Ethnicity and/or Race: Check all that apply (optional): _____

Is the student part of any other after-school or summer program? No Yes: _____

Does the student have siblings who participated in SMART? Who and when?

School Information for Student

Current School _____ Grade _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

School Telephone _____ Teacher's Name _____

Previous School(s) and grade(s) attended: _____



Parent/ Guardian Application

Parent/ Guardian Information (#1)

Name (First, Middle, Last) _____

Relationship to student/ applicant (e.g. mother, father, aunt) _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Parent/ Guardian Cell _____

Email _____

Occupation _____

Employed by _____

Highest Level of Education Completed (check one)

- Grade School Some High School High School Graduate
 Some College Bachelor's Degree (B.A) Master's Degree or Higher

Ethnic Background (Optional) _____

Parent/ Guardian Information (#2)

First Name _____ Middle Name _____ Last Name _____

Relationship to student/ applicant (e.g. mother, father, aunt) _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Parent/ Guardian Cell _____

Email _____

Occupation _____

Employed by _____



Highest Level of Education Completed (check one)

- Grade School Some High School High School Graduate
- Some College Bachelor's Degree (B.A) Master's Degree or Higher

Ethnic Background (Optional) _____

Parent/ Guardian Written Section

Please answer the following.

1. How did you hear about SMART?

2. Describe your child's greatest strengths.

3. Describe your child's areas of needed improvement (these can be academic or social). How do you think you can help your child improve in these areas?

4. What extracurricular activities is your child involved in? (Please include other summer and afterschool programs that your child has been involved with in the past).



4. In what ways to do you support or get involved with your child's education?

3. Why do you want your child to be a part of SMART?



**Verification of Household Income
School Year 2009-2010**

Student Name: _____

In order for your child to qualify for a scholarship through SMART, families must meet financial guidelines established by the Basic Fund, a partner organization that provides SMART with scholarships. To ensure that your income is within these guidelines, you must submit proof of your annual household income with your completed SMART application.

Please complete this form and attach a copy your family's Year 2009 1040 Tax Form and W-2 forms. (If you did not file taxes, copies of CalWorks, Unemployment/Disability, Social Security documents, Worker's Compensation, Retirement Benefits, and Foster Care Benefits are also acceptable.) If you anticipate your income to change dramatically in 2009, or you expect it to, talk to a SMART staff member directly to arrange for the proper documentation.

Applications that do not include any of this information will not be accepted.

Who is financially responsible for the applicant? Please explain if necessary.

Our household annual income is \$ _____ With that income we/I support _____ people.

Do you anticipate your income significantly increasing or decreasing for the 2010 tax year (ending December 31, 2010)?

- Yes
- No

If "yes," please explain your circumstances.

By signing below, I am stating that this information is true and accurate. Additionally, I understand that: if my child is accepted into SMART and our income increases significantly during the time my child is in the program we will have to pay an appropriate portion of the scholarship and if SMART finds my financial information to be false, my child may be dismissed from the program and will forfeit the scholarship.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____



SMART Financial Guidelines

Household Size	Maximum Income for 2010-2010 School Year
2	\$38,103
3	\$47,896
4	\$57,600
5	\$67,304
6	\$77,008
7+	Please Call

SMART will calculate financial eligibility based on Gross Adjusted Income of the tax form that lists the student applicant as a dependent. Household size must reflect the dependents listed on the 1040 Tax Forms.

Frequently asked questions:

1. My family does not qualify financially for SMART. Can I still apply?

You can still apply to receive academic and social support from SMART, but the family will be fully responsible for the tuition payments. Schools have their own scholarships available to make tuition payments affordable for families.

2. How much is my family responsible for each year?

Depending on your income and the number of family members you support each year, tuition to schools range from \$500 to \$2100 per family, per year payable in installments to SMART.

3. Our student lives in two different households. How is my eligibility calculated?

Typically, SMART and our partner schools calculate financial need based on income from BOTH families who are financially responsible for the student. SMART will require tax information from both parents and households, and will calculate eligibility accordingly. As each family situation is unique, should you have any questions specific to your household, please contact a SMART staff member.

4. I thought this was a completely “free” program. What happened?

SMART believes in the importance of affordability of excellent education to all families despite their financial circumstances. At the same time, we have changed our policy to reflect the values of our partner schools, in that families should have financial investment into their student’s education. We are asking all SMART families to contribute 1% to 5% of the entire tuition of your child’s school (tuition ranges from \$13,000 to \$25,000 a year).

5. What happens if my family can no longer afford the tuition payments?

SMART is fully committed to the student and the families upon acceptance to our program. Should unusual circumstances arise, we can discuss individually to determine payment plans or work with the school to make your tuition portion as affordable as possible.



- | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1. Academic potential | <input type="checkbox"/> limited | <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> outstanding |
| 2. Academic achievement | <input type="checkbox"/> below expectations | <input type="checkbox"/> as expected | <input type="checkbox"/> better than tests | <input type="checkbox"/> far above expectations |
| 3. Effort/Motivation | <input type="checkbox"/> limited | <input type="checkbox"/> sporadic | <input type="checkbox"/> usually good | <input type="checkbox"/> maximum |
| 4. Study habits | <input type="checkbox"/> poor | <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> excellent |
| 5. Ability to work in groups | <input type="checkbox"/> has great difficulty | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes has difficulty | <input type="checkbox"/> usually effective | <input type="checkbox"/> always works well |
| 6. Ability to work alone | <input type="checkbox"/> needs much help | <input type="checkbox"/> needs help frequently | <input type="checkbox"/> needs help occasionally | <input type="checkbox"/> always works well |
| 7. Curiosity | <input type="checkbox"/> little | <input type="checkbox"/> occasional | <input type="checkbox"/> consistent | <input type="checkbox"/> marked |
| 8. Ability to express ideas orally | <input type="checkbox"/> limited | <input type="checkbox"/> has some | <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> exceptional |
| 9. Ability to express ideas in writing | <input type="checkbox"/> limited | <input type="checkbox"/> has some difficulty | <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> exceptional |
| 10. Imagination | <input type="checkbox"/> little | <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> active | <input type="checkbox"/> highly developed |
| 11. Use of time | <input type="checkbox"/> uses poorly | <input type="checkbox"/> occasionally wastes | <input type="checkbox"/> usually uses well | <input type="checkbox"/> always uses effectively |
| 12. Follows directions | <input type="checkbox"/> rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> needs much explanation | <input type="checkbox"/> occasionally needs help | <input type="checkbox"/> quickly and effectively |
| 13. Seeks help when needed | <input type="checkbox"/> rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> occasionally | <input type="checkbox"/> usually | <input type="checkbox"/> always |
| 14. Attention span | <input type="checkbox"/> easily distracted | <input type="checkbox"/> occasionally distracted | <input type="checkbox"/> usually good | <input type="checkbox"/> exceptionally good |
| 15. Maturity in terms of age/grade | <input type="checkbox"/> very immature | <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat immature | <input type="checkbox"/> mature | <input type="checkbox"/> impressive |
| 16. Respect for others | <input type="checkbox"/> disrespectful | <input type="checkbox"/> usually respectful | <input type="checkbox"/> respectful | <input type="checkbox"/> highly respectful |
| 17. Social interactions with peers | <input type="checkbox"/> relates poorly | <input type="checkbox"/> has occasional problems | <input type="checkbox"/> healthy relationships | <input type="checkbox"/> extremely popular |
| 18. Reaction to criticism | <input type="checkbox"/> poor | <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> excellent |
| 19. Leadership potential | <input type="checkbox"/> a follower | <input type="checkbox"/> leads when given responsibility | <input type="checkbox"/> seeks opportunities and uses them well | <input type="checkbox"/> a natural leader |
| 20. Initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> never initiates | <input type="checkbox"/> rarely shows initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> occasionally initiates | <input type="checkbox"/> often initiates |
| 21. Classroom conduct | <input type="checkbox"/> frequent disruptions | <input type="checkbox"/> occasional misconduct | <input type="checkbox"/> usually good behavior | <input type="checkbox"/> good conduct |
| 22. Sense of humor | <input type="checkbox"/> rarely laughs or smiles | <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> delightful |
| 23. Self confidence | <input type="checkbox"/> needs much reassurance | <input type="checkbox"/> needs some support | <input type="checkbox"/> appears overly confident | <input type="checkbox"/> positive self-image |
| 24. Reading comprehension | <input type="checkbox"/> below average | <input type="checkbox"/> average | <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> excellent |
| 25. Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> below average | <input type="checkbox"/> average | <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> excellent |



26. Math fundamentals

below average

average

good

excellent

Additional Comments:

Please describe the family's relationship with the faculty and administration.

Is there any additional information that could be better conveyed in a phone conversation and/or would you be interested in a follow-up conversation with a director to learn more about SMART?

Yes, I have more information about the student

Yes, I would like to learn more

No

Are you familiar with SMART?

Not at All

Somewhat

Fairly

Very Familiar

Specific Recommendation (please keep in mind that we are an extremely academically rigorous program):

Highly recommended

Recommended

Recommend with reservations

Prefer not to make a recommendation

Not recommended

Notes: _____

Form completed by: _____ Position: _____

Email: _____ Phone _____

Subject(s) you taught applicant: _____ I have known applicant for: _____

School: _____ School Phone: _____ Date: _____



Principal Form: Release of Test Scores
Due March 15, 2010

Parents: Please complete this form and have your child take it to his/her school principal or secretary with a stamped envelope.

To: _____
School Principal's Name

My child, _____, is applying to **SMART**, a tuition-free academic enrichment, year-round academic support program and placement service for students entering the fifth grade. Students attend the program during summer before and during the school year of their 5th-8th grade years, with placement into a private middle school beginning in the student's 6th grade year. In order to complete the application for the program, it is required that SMART receives the items listed below by **March 15, 2010**.

- This student's official transcript for the past three years (grades 2, 3, 4)
- His/ her most current standardized test scores (STAR, CTBS, report)

Further, whether or not my child is accepted to SMART, I authorize SMART to have access to his/ her grades and test scores for his/ her remaining middle school and High School years.

If you have questions, please contact SMART at (415) 865-5400.
Please send the applicant's transcripts and test scores to:

Zackaria Gaines
SMART
1345 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Fax 415-865-0505

THANK YOU!!