

**UMKC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
SATURDAY ACADEMY
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

I AM A HIGH SCHOOL (OR MIDDLE SCHOOL) STUDENTS WHO IS CONSIDERED A PRETTY GOOD STUDENT, BUT AM MOTIVATED TO IMPROVE MY MATH AND SCIENCE ABILITIES. I HAVE AN INTEREST HEALTH CAREERS, BUT I MAY NEED SOME HELP IN STRENGTHENING MY MATH AND SCIENCE SKILLS. CAN SATURDAY ACADEMY HELP ME?

Saturday Academy is a program designed to help students improve their skills in math and science. Students who are motivated towards health care careers may need additional support in the areas of math and science in order to become stronger students, and Saturday Academy is designed to provide this support through supplemental instruction and tutoring in the areas of biology, chemistry and math. Saturday Academy is a way to receive extra academic support and instruction in order to improve in these areas. Our goal is to encourage students with an interest in math and science who may need some additional academic support.

MY STUDENT IS A STRAIGHT-A STUDENT IN HIGH SCHOOL AND HAS ALREADY BEGUN TAKING ADVANCED COURSES, SUCH AS AP OR IB. WILL SATURDAY ACADEMY BE BENEFICIAL TO HIM/HER?

If your student is already earning A's in advanced coursework, such as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, honors or dual-enrollment courses, Saturday Academy will most likely not offer any benefits. Saturday Academy is not designed for accelerated students, but rather is a program for students who have an interest in health careers but may struggle in math and science. Saturday Academy sessions offer supplemental instruction in math, science, verbal reasoning and/or test-taking skills, and are focused on assisting students who have demonstrated the potential for academic success but may need extra support. Therefore, advanced students will most likely not be challenged by Saturday Academy.

MY STUDENT HAS A VERY LOW GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND HAS NEVER BEEN ABLE TO DO WELL IN MATH AND SCIENCE. CAN SATURDAY ACADEMY IMPROVE MY STUDENT'S LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT IN THESE AREAS?

Saturday Academy was not designed for students who have a severe and long-standing deficit in math and/or science. These students may benefit from assessment, evaluation, one-on-one tutoring and/or small-classroom supplemental instruction in order to identify the specific cause of long-standing poor performance. Saturday Academy is designed for students who have demonstrated good performance in math and science, but may need some additional support to further improve in these areas.

HOW IS A STUDENT SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN SATURDAY ACADEMY?

There are more students interested in attending Saturday Academy than we have space to accommodate. Therefore, applications received by the deadline are given first priority. Of those applications received by the deadline, we review each part of the application to determine whether or not Saturday Academy is a good "fit" for the student. We will look at the

recommendation provided, school transcripts or grade cards, and the other information available in the application to determine which students are best suited for Saturday Academy.

IF MY STUDENT IS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN SATURDAY ACADEMY, IS HE/SHE REQUIRED TO ATTEND EVERY SESSION? WILL HE/SHE BE PENALIZED FOR NON-ATTENDANCE?

Although there are times that other Saturday activities may conflict with Saturday Academy, our goal is to have students attend all sessions. When a conflict arises, we ask that you notify the School of Medicine Office of Admissions of your absence (medicine@umkc.edu or 816-235-1870). Although students are not penalized for missing sessions, missing too many sessions will not assist you in achieving your goals of improved performance in math and science.

MY STUDENT HAS BEEN ACCEPTED INTO SATURDAY ACADEMY, BUT I ALSO HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW TO SUPPORT HIM/HER IN COLLEGE PLANNING AND PURSUING A HEALTH CARE CAREER. DOES SATURDAY ACADEMY OFFER SUPPORT TO PARENTS?

Saturday Academy offers parent workshops in order to assist parents in a number of areas, such as preparing your student for the college application process, a career in health care, the transition from middle school to high school, and a variety of other topics. During the Saturday Academy orientation, parents will be asked to identify topics of interest for parent information sessions. The Office of Admissions at the School of Medicine can also serve as a good resource in many of these areas (medicine@umkc.edu or 816-235-1870).

HOW WILL I KNOW IF A SATURDAY SESSION IS CANCELLED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER?

If Saturday Academy must be cancelled due to weather, you will find this notification at www.med.umkc.edu/saturdayacademy. We also make every attempt to email students within 24 hours of the session.

IF I HAVE ANOTHER COMMITMENT THAT REQUIRES ME TO DROP MY STUDENT OFF EARLIER THAN THE SCHEDULED TIME, MAY I DO SO?

During the weekends, the School of Medicine requires authorized identification to access the building. Therefore, Saturday Academy students can arrive no earlier than 9:45 a.m., unless he/she is signed up for a tutoring session. In addition, Saturday Academy student must be picked up within 15 minutes after the end of each session (by 12:45 p.m.).

IF I HAVE OTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT SATURDAY ACADEMY, WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

The School of Medicine Office of Admissions coordinates the Saturday Academy program. You may contact this office at medicine@umkc.edu or 816-235-1870. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.