Summer Camp Catalog 2026

FOR RISING 10TH & 11TH GRADERS

WOLVERINE PATHWAYS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Dear Scholars and Families,

We are so excited to share this year's high quality summer programming opportunities sponsored by the University of Michigan or Wolverine Pathways partners. You will find a variety of options offered for **in-person summer camps as well as some virtual summer programs!**

As you know, all Rising 10th and Rising 11th graders (current 9th and 10th graders) are required to either p**articipate in one of our co-designed or affiliate camps during the summer term. If you are interested in participating in an approved external, non-WP affiliated summer program, please note that credit worthy alternatives are very seldomly approved. Please see next page for details.**

Our goal is to provide scholars with substantive **exposure to new academic and career fields in preparation for college**, as well as opportunities to learn from experienced faculty and professionals from the University of Michigan and our corporate affiliates.

All summer programming will take place between **mid June and mid August 2026**, with the specific dates of attendance dependent on the summer camp to which the scholar is matched. A student who successfully completes their summer program will have met their WP summer participation requirement. *(NOTE - Wolverine Pathways will cover the full cost of attendance for summer programs on our sponsored list, but will NOT cover costs for any external, non-WP affiliated summer programs.)*

This catalog shares information on each of our sponsored camps, the link to our **WP Summer Camp 2026 Application** as well as application link for camps requiring their own application. Use this catalog to inform your choices when applying to summer programs.

All scholars need to apply to at least 3 programs by no later than Monday, March 2nd and participate in at least one summer program to completion (either with WP or an external, approved summer camp) to fulfill their summer 2026 participation requirements.

TO APPLY

All scholars will need to have submitted their fall 2025 grades and 2024/2025 school transcript with final grades, which is a requirement for your summer 2026 programming through Wolverine Pathways.

Please refer to the directions received from our Attendance and Records Coordinator to submit your transcript if you have not already.

Deadline to submit fall 2025 grades/transcripts was February 15, 2026

PLEASE BE SURE TO COMPLETE THE CORRECT APPLICATION FOR YOUR GRADE

When Will Scholars Be Notified of Their Summer Camp Placement?

All scholars will be matched to their summer programs and receive communication from WP regarding next steps by **mid May**. WP will try to match scholars to their 1st, 2nd, or 3rd choice based on the contents of their application (their grades and short-answer essay questions), however, summer camp placements are NOT guaranteed. Scholars will be required to reply back to WP to confirm their intended participation in their summer camp.

Please note, if scholars do not complete the summer camp application, scholars forfeit their ability to choose a summer camp and will be placed in a camp based on space availability. Placements due to lack of response still require full participation.

Transportation

Transportation will be provided Monday through Friday for most WP-sponsored summer camps on campus at U-M Ann Arbor. Scholars will arrive on campus starting at 9:00am, and depart from campus by 3:30pm.

Transportation is **NOT** provided for residential camps

More details will be provided after scholars have been matched to their summer camps.

If You Are Interested in Applying to a Summer Program Outside of Wolverine Pathways:

Wolverine Pathways summer camps and programs encourage Wolverine Pathways scholars to explore a range of academic and career fields through summer learning opportunities. Every year, to help participants identify potential summer opportunities, Wolverine Pathways shares internal programs and others hosted by Wolverine Pathways corporate sponsors – to which scholars can apply, and, if accepted by that program, participate to meet their WP summer requirement or receive enrichment opportunities that complement those provided by WP.

Any external, non-WP sponsored summer program must meet the following criteria:

- Provides rigorous academic and/or career exposure that supports scholars' college preparation or admissibility and/or cultivates their work orientation
- Has clear learning objectives and measurable outcomes for student participants
- Be at least 5 days in length if residential, or at least 2 weeks if non-residential

If a scholar would like to receive credit for participation in a non-WP sponsored summer program, they must complete the credit worthy alternative application and receive approval. Please note that all request are not approved and attendance and GPA are taken into consideration. The applications will be reviewed by **WP Associate Director Adrienne Hill (amclabin@umich.edu)**. To receive credit, scholars must provide proof of enrollment and program completion. Additionally, Wolverine Pathways will not cover funding of any kind for an approved, non-WP sponsored program, nor is WP responsible for facilitating or coordinating logistics or transportation of any kind.

Scholars are still required to apply to at least 3 WP-sponsored programs, however, since their enrollment in the non-WP program is not guaranteed.

SUMMER CAMPS AT A GLANCE

RESIDENTIAL (OVERNIGHT) OPTIONS

Camp	Application Deadline	Dates and Number of Weeks
ArcStart Pre-architecture Program	**February 26, 2026** **(Apply through WP AND separate link)**	**3 weeks** July 12 - July 31, 2026
D-RISE Detroit Research Internship Summer Experience ***(for Rising 11th graders)***	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**6 weeks** June 22 - July 31, 2026
Earth Camp Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences ***(for Rising 10th graders)***	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**1 week** July 19 - July 26, 2026
Earth Camp Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences ***(for Rising 11th graders)***	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**1 week** July 6 - July 12, 2026
Information Changes Everything! U-M School of Information	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**1 week** July 20 - July 24, 2026
Neurons Can Fly! Michigan Medicine Cai Lab	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**2 weeks** **Week 1:** July 19 - July 24, 2026 **Week 2:** July 26 - July 31, 2026

DAY CAMP OPTIONS

FTVM Camp Film and Media Summer Camp	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**2 weeks** Week 1: July 6 - 9, 2026 Week 2: July 13 - 16, 2026
Pathways to Pharmacology U-M Medical School	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**2 weeks** Week 1: July 20 - 22, 2026 Week 2: July 27 - 29, 2026
Pathways to Psychology Michigan Medicine	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**1 week** July 20 - July 24, 2026
Health for Public Good U-M School of Public Health	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**1 week** July 20 – July 24, 2026
Information and Technology Services	March 2, 2026 (Apply through WP)	**1 week** July 6 – July 10, 2026

ARC START

OVERNIGHT

Dates: July 12, 2026 - July 31, 2026
Application Due: February 26, 2026

ArcStart introduces students to core design principles and the built environment through hands-on, studio-based learning, closely mirroring what a student might experience as an undergraduate architecture major at the University of Michigan's Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Students are introduced to the fundamentals of architectural design, including the shared language and core concepts used in the discipline. This includes ways architects think about space and mass, how buildings are organized and used, and how ideas are represented and communicated. By the end of the program, students are comfortable using architectural vocabulary related to spatial organization, drawing conventions, and building elements, and they understand how those concepts show up in drawings, models, and design decisions.

Because **ArcStart is an introductory program** for high school students, the focus is not on highly technical or professional software. Instead, they learn enough to produce thoughtful, compelling design work suitable for college application portfolios. They also gain exposure to digital tools commonly used in architecture programs today, with opportunities to experiment with advanced visualization and rendering software such as Twinmotion and Enscape others.

ArcStart participants collaborate on projects and learn together as they explore the field of architecture. Many students find that the skills and experiences they gain are valuable and help them feel better prepared for college.

> *"I absolutely loved every activity and aspect of the program. I will always remember all of the field trips, workshops, studio time, pin-ups, open forums, time spent at Bursley, RC activities, the art fair, but most importantly the amazing people that I met along the way. I could not have asked for a better group of campers to learn, collaborate, and share my love of Architecture with. I learned so much from ArcStart and I would undoubtedly recommend the camp to anyone who is interested in architecture as a career or just want to explore the profession further." - ArcStart 2024 Camper*

D-RISE

DETROIT RESEARCH INTERNSHIP SUMMER EXPERIENCE

OVERNIGHT

Dates: June 22, 2026 - July 31, 2026
Application Due: March 2, 2026

The **UM Detroit Research Internship Summer Experience (D-RISE)** provides summer research internships to high school students for 6 weeks over the summer to perform full-time research at the University of Michigan. The students selected for the program will **come to Ann Arbor for 6 weeks and will be housed on campus**, supervised by a chaperone**.** Students will be on campus Monday - Friday and **return home for the weekend.**

The students will work for a maximum of 40 hours per week in a participating **Chemistry laboratory,** jointly supervised by the corresponding faculty member and a graduate student/postdoc mentor. Each participating student will be placed in a different laboratory and work on a **unique project** specifically designed for a high school student participant. The students will further participate in all other group activities, including group and progress meetings, but also group BBQs and other extracurricular activities.

At the end of the program, the students will present their research at the annual **Department of Chemistry Undergraduate Student Research Symposium**, which is usually held at the end of July. In this way, we hope to spark the students' interest in STEM areas, and in a college education in general.

Orientation will be conducted on an individual basis with the high school student and their parent(s). Once the student is selected, we will schedule an orientation meeting, either in person or over Zoom.

"I really appreciate how real the program is. It put me in a very realistic college environment. Now I feel a lot more prepared for college than ever before."

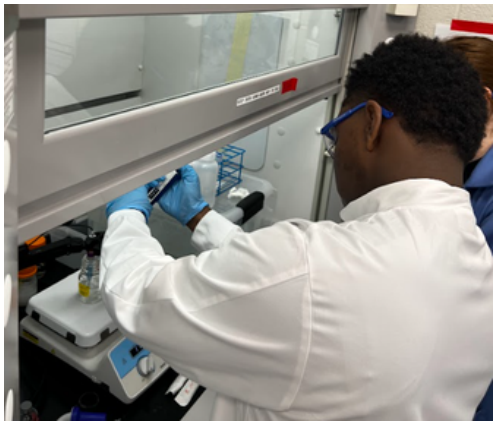
"I enjoyed presenting my work to chemistry students at U of M. It was great to show my research over the summer and what I had accomplished."

EARTH CAMP
FOR RISING 10TH GRADERS

OVERNIGHT

Dates: July 19, 2026 - July 26th, 2026
Application Due: March 2, 2026

Earth Camp is an approximately week-long residential summer program for Wolverine Pathway scholars. **Rising 10th grade students** will travel to the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor campus) for laboratory and outdoor, on-campus learning activities. They will participate in activities such as climbing a ropes course, hiking through the Arb, and learning about research opportunities in on-campus laboratories. Students will live in on-campus dormitories for the first portion of Earth Camp. Students will then travel to Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore and more.



"My experience this year up north was truly unforgettable. My eyes were opened up to the world of science and my knowledge on geology and the earth's systems was expanded. Going to this camp majorly encourages me to want to become an environmental engineer. Interacting with the environment and discussing questions regarding it, really helped me realize the passion and great interest I have in science. I got to take on both mental and physical challenges while at Earth Camp. Being here has helped me overcome some of my fears, step beyond my limits, and urges me to carry out a career in the science field. I have also gone through this camp with a group of supportive, intelligent, and kind hearted people. I have made some of the most amazing friends at Earth Camp and would absolutely love to be able to experience another year of learning, fun, and adventure."

EARTH CAMP

FOR RISING 11TH GRADERS

OVERNIGHT

Dates: July 6, 2026 - July 12, 2026
Application Due: March 2, 2026

Earth Camp is a week-long residential summer program for Wolverine Pathway scholars. **Rising 11th grade students** will travel to Mackinac Island to learn about the local geology and to find evidence that MI was covered by a shallow sea. They will them travel through the Upper Peninsula as they continue to explore.

"This week in the Upper Peninsula has been one of the most memorable and most inspiring times of my life. I really enjoyed my time here and I would love to come back and do more memorable things with this very same group of students. Ever since the first camp last year, I look at multiple things differently and I look for the reason behind things including things coming from the Earth. I am finding a bigger interest in science classes and I plan to go to college studying in some field that involves studying Earth whether it's becoming a geologist or something else. I have found a passion and I have started telling my teachers that I wanted to be pushed harder in my science classes because I feel as if it is something I really want to build within life. These couple of days have been days with new experiences that I thought I would never do, like riding in boats, cliff diving, climbing rocks, etc…"

FILM, TELEVISION & MEDIA

FILM & MEDIA SUMMER CAMP

DAY CAMP

Dates: Week 1: July 6, 7, 8, 9 | Week 2: July 13, 14, 15, 16
Application Due: March 2, 2026

Production - In the Studios!
Meets for eight 2-hour class sessions - Instructor, David Marek

This course is an intensive hands-on, collaborative experience meant for those who want to challenge their creativity while learning valuable skills and basic concepts that are the foundation for all motion picture production. During our scheduled time, we will produce a short program in our professional television studios. Each student will gain experience working every role on a live studio production including being a director, a camera person, a sound mixer, an assistant director, and even act as talent in front of the camera. It's a fast-paced course for those who have always wondered how professional films and television programs are produced. Come join us, and let's have some fun!

Screenwriting
Meets for eight 1.5-hour class sessions - Instructor, Dan Shere

Using clips from popular movies as points of departure, scholars will examine "the screenplays from which these moments of movie magic were born." Learning from these "masters of screenwriting," they will develop their own exciting plots, compelling characters, and great dialogue. Having analyzed and explored "all of the elements that go into a great screenplay," scholars will become screenwriters themselves and produce their own short screenplay.

This program will run for two weeks, Monday through Thursday from 10:00am - 2:30pm.

HEALTH FOR PUBLIC GOOD

DAY CAMP

Dates: July 20 – July 24, 2026
Application Due: March 2, 2026

Health for Public Good – Exploring the Marvels of Public Health

IIn this commuter experience for rising 10th and 11th grade Wolverine Pathways students, participants will journey through Public Health and describe how it differs from medicine. Remember the pandemic? Remember having to use hand sanitizer and wear masks? Vaccination? These are all public health in action! Come engage with various public health topics like mental health, infectious disease, racism, healthy neighborhoods, food access, obesity, and climate change and learn how public health professionals act in ways to protect the health of the population. Come learn how to create a healthy neighborhood with us! The program is designed to provide a fun and engaging educational experience where participants learn through activities and games.

"I came into public health at this program thinking that public health was...kind of just like what the CDC does about disease, controls, stuff like that, the World Health Organization, stuff like that. But I kind of came out of it figuring out, 'Oh, it's not just, I guess, diseases.' It's more so about health equity. There's racism involved. I also didn't know that housing and environment had a really big part in it as well. I didn't know that just because of the zip code that you live in, you could have a lower life expectancy than people in another zip code. For example, Ypsi and Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor has a life expectancy 80 years old, while Ypsi has 71. I guess I learned that money really has a big play in what happens to you."

"I thought that this camp was amazing in terms of the college-like learning environment that we were able to be exposed to and learn in, those in charge and involved obviously care very much about their craft and that really translates into how they teach which I think really positively affected me and my perspective and feeling on public health."

INFORMATION CHANGES EVERYTHING

OVERNIGHT

Dates: July 20 - July 24, 2026
Application Due: March 2, 2026

Camp Overview:

The **Information Changes Everything** camp will guide you to understand how information science can answer important questions in our society. This includes topics like human health, the environment, and the impact of algorithms and online communities on our views.

What You'll Learn:

- Use data collection and design tools to create solutions for scientific questions and social problems.
- Identify how information science is used in video gaming to improve player experiences and game design.
- Discover how sports teams use data to make better decisions about player recruitment and performance.
- Evaluate the use of artificial intelligence and the ethical questions it arises.
- Recognize the uses of virtual reality beyond gaming.

Why Attend?

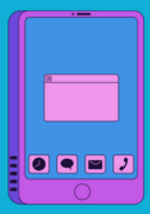
- Gain a better understanding of how information science can solve world challenges.
- Learn the skills needed to become an information scientist.
- Discover various career options in the field of information science.
- Learn about the path to earning a Bachelor of Science in Information.
- Stay on campus and experience student life at the University of Michigan

Join us to explore how information can change everything and how you can be a part of it!

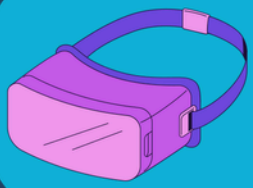
Check out the UMSI Video

Information changes everything.

SUMMER CAMP



We create and share knowledge so that people will use information **with technology** to build a better world



Explore the place where technology and human interaction intersect. Learn about the **many career opportunities** in the field of information science

Learn about the **multiple admissions pathways** to the School of Information

July 20-24

Stay on Campus

School of Information

UMSI

INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

DAY CAMP

Dates: July 6 - July 10, 2026
Application Due: March 2, 2026

Camp Overview:

Introducing the FIRST-EVER ITS Behind-the-Scenes Camp!

Calling all rising 10th & 11th graders:

Experience an exclusive, behind-the-scenes tech adventure at the University of Michigan!

Come see what makes UofM's tech backbone tick! At this pioneering camp, you'll explore the systems that keep phones ringing, WiFi humming, streaming TV running, and audio-visual setups working across campus. Get up close with experts who solve real tech challenges and discover how Michigan stays connected every day!

What Will You Experience?

- Phone, WiFi & Network Support: Discover how campus stays connected behind the scenes.
- Streaming Services: See how campus entertainment stays up and running.
- Audio-Visual Setups: Explore how seamless experiences are created for classes and events.

Why Join?

- Meet ITS experts
- See real tech problem-solving in action
- Explore essential campus services
- Be part of something NEW and help shape the future!

Curious? Tech-savvy or just eager to learn?
Apply for the FIRST-EVER week of discovery, teamwork, and campus impact!

NEURONS CAN FLY

OVERNIGHT

Dates: July 19-24 AND/OR July 26-31, 2026
Application Due: March 2, 2026

"**Neurons Can Fly"** was designed by the Cai Lab at the University of Michigan to introduce high school students to neuroscience and other STEM-related research fields. Our mission is to expose students to cutting edge neuroscience research by providing hands-on, interdisciplinary education in state-of-the-art laboratories led by highly respected and successful researchers. This program utilizes Drosophila melanogaster (the fruit fly) as the model organism, providing students with lab experience in neuroanatomy, genetics, immunohistology, electrophysiology, microscopy, image processing, neural informatics, and more! Students will experience life as an undergraduate by staying in the campus dorms and exploring the best Ann Arbor has to offer during activities outside of the classroom. By providing this educational and social experience, we hope to excite and inspire the next generation of students to pursue higher education in neuroscience or related STEM fields.

NCF provides 3 levels of participation:

Jump Start Classes:
Students will receive scientific literature, recorded lectures, and open-ended questions to build background knowledge in neuroscience and cutting-edge neurotechnology. The Jump Start Classes will be provided to students in a virtual format and are required in order to attend the in-person summer camp in July.

Hands-on Summer Camp:
Students will participate in a week-long research experience on the University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus. During this time, they will receive wet lab and computational neuroscience research training through interactive modules.

Advanced Individual Research Program:
After summer camp, students can opt-in to participate in the ongoing systems neuroscience research with the Cai lab. Each student will select a project designed for remote and/or in-person participation and receive one-to-one mentorship.

If you have already attended Neurons Can Fly summer camp, our Quantitative Neuroscience week will be new this year, and you are welcome to attend!

Experimental Neuroscience Camp (hands-on focus):
July 19-24, 2026
Students will participate in hands-on research experiences that explore fundamental neuroscience techniques, including fly genetics, genotyping, brain dissections, fluorescence microscopy, and optogenetic/thermogenetic behavioral experiments. Through laboratory modules covering neural anatomy, molecular biology, and live animal work, students will gain practical skills in experimental design and data collection using the Drosophila model system.

Quantitative Neuroscience Camp (computation/presentation focus):
July 26-31, 2026
Students will apply computational and AI-powered approaches to analyze neuroscience data, including machine-learning-based behavioral analysis, electron microscopy circuit mapping using Flywire, and single-cell RNA sequencing to classify neuronal subtypes. Working in small groups throughout the week, students will integrate behavioral, connectivity, and gene expression datasets to prepare and deliver a scientific presentation on Drosophila neuron heterogeneity on the final day of camp.

This is a residential camp, meaning you will stay on campus.
Move In: Sunday before camp starts between 4:30-5:30 PM **Move Out:** Friday camp ends between 4:00-5:00 PM

PATHWAYS TO PHARMACOLOGY

DAY CAMP

Dates: Week 1: July 20, 21, 22 | Week 2: July 27, 28, 29
Application Due: March 2, 2026

Join us for an unforgettable experience during the Summer of 2026 at our **9th annual "Pathways to Pharmacology" program,** hosted by the Department of Pharmacology. This immersive camp is your gateway to the fascinating world of pharmacology—the science of understanding how drugs work in the body to treat, cure, or prevent diseases.

Students will explore the foundations of disease biology and learn how scientists translate this knowledge into new and innovative therapies. Through engaging sessions led by Pharmacology graduate students, participants will take part in hands-on laboratory activities covering core pharmacology concepts, including antibiotics, cardiovascular disease, and neuronal signaling. In addition, students will hear directly from current graduate students about their career paths, gain exposure to a wide range of STEM opportunities, and discover how pharmacology connects to nearly every area of science.

Whether you dream of becoming a doctor, a researcher, or even if you're still discovering your interests, this program is perfect for you. No previous scientific experience is required—just bring your curiosity and enthusiasm!

The 6-day program will run on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday for 2 weeks.

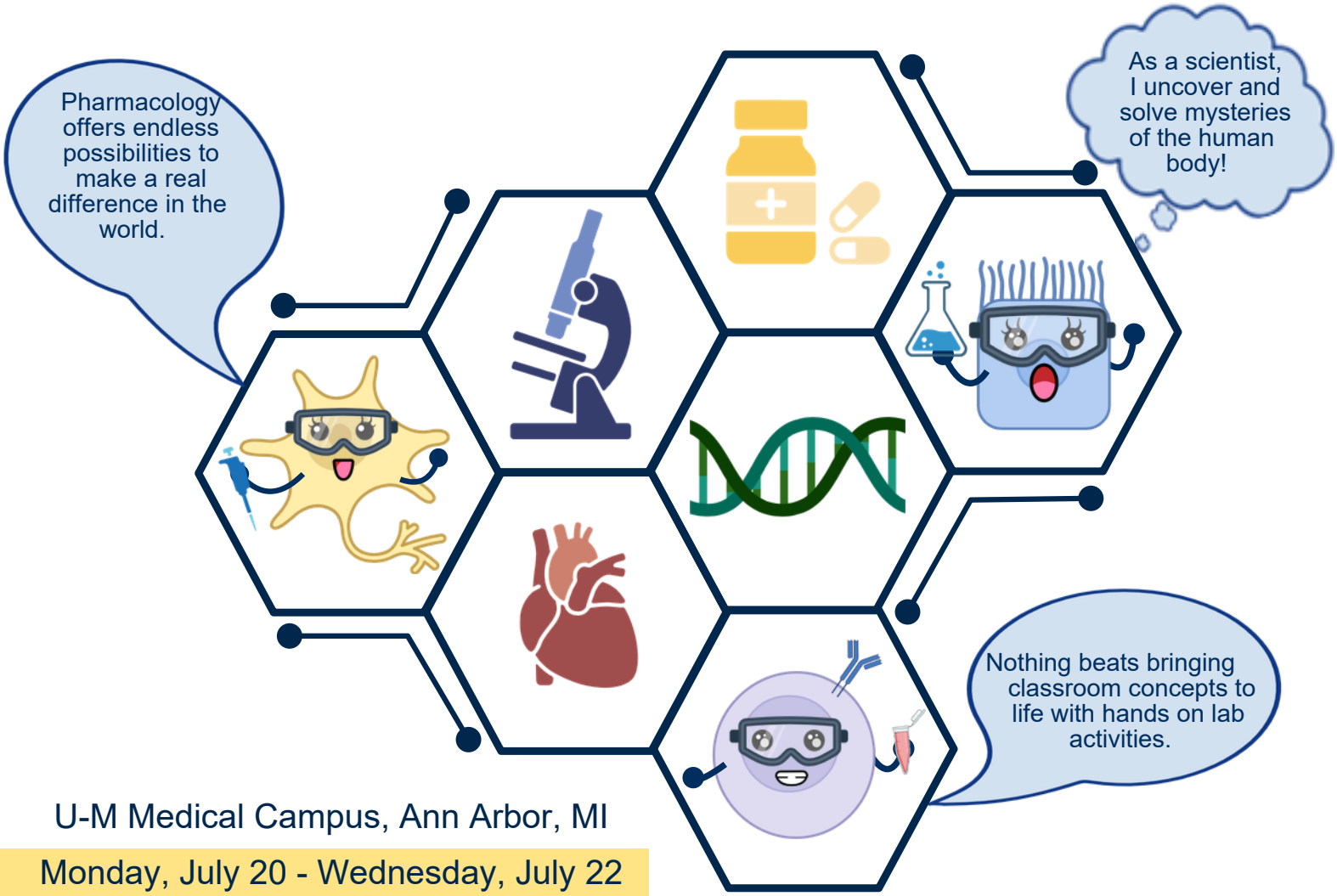
"I really enjoyed this program and learning about pharmacology.

"I liked working in the lab"

"I really enjoyed the program mainly how we were taught and actually did hands on activities"

WOLVERINE PATHWAYS PRESENTS

PATHWAYS to PHARMACOLOGY



U-M Medical Campus, Ann Arbor, MI

Monday, July 20 - Wednesday, July 22
&
Monday, July 27 - Wednesday, July 29

Join us for an unforgettable experience during the Summer of 2026 at our 9th annual "Pathways to Pharmacology" program, hosted by the Department of Pharmacology. This immersive 6 day camp is your gateway to the fascinating world of pharmacology—the science of understanding how drugs work in the body to treat, cure, or prevent diseases. Dive into the basics of disease biology and explore how scientists use this knowledge to discover groundbreaking treatments. Engage in dynamic sessions led by our Pharmacology graduate students with each section containing a fun hands on lab activity to bring the information to life. Network with Pharmacology graduate students and peers from other STEM programs to learn about exciting science careers. Whether you dream of becoming a doctor, a researcher, or even if you're still discovering your interests, this program is perfect for you. No previous scientific experience is required— just bring your curiosity and enthusiasm!

MEDICAL SCHOOL
PHARMACOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

PATHWAYS TO PSYCHOLOGY

DAY CAMP

Dates: July 20, 2026 - July 24, 2026
Application Due: March 2, 2026

The **6th Annual Pathways to Psychology Summer Camp** will take you on a journey through the exciting world of psychology!

You will learn how psychologists are scientists, how psychologists heal, how psychologists shape the world, how psychologists make sense of the world, and how psychologists solve problems. We will explore these topics with activities, games, experiments, and expert presenters!

Each day, throughout the week, you will also be working in small teams, putting your learning into action by solving different pressing and complex problems!

In addition to being introduced to psychology topics, you will hear about different types of psychology and the path to becoming a psychologist. You will learn from and be able to network with researchers and clinicians from the University of Michigan Health.

The **Pathways to Psychology Summer Camp** objective is to inform, excite, and provide experiential learning for Wolverine Pathways Scholars about how psychologists understand and improve our world. By the end of the program, scholars will have accomplished the following goals:

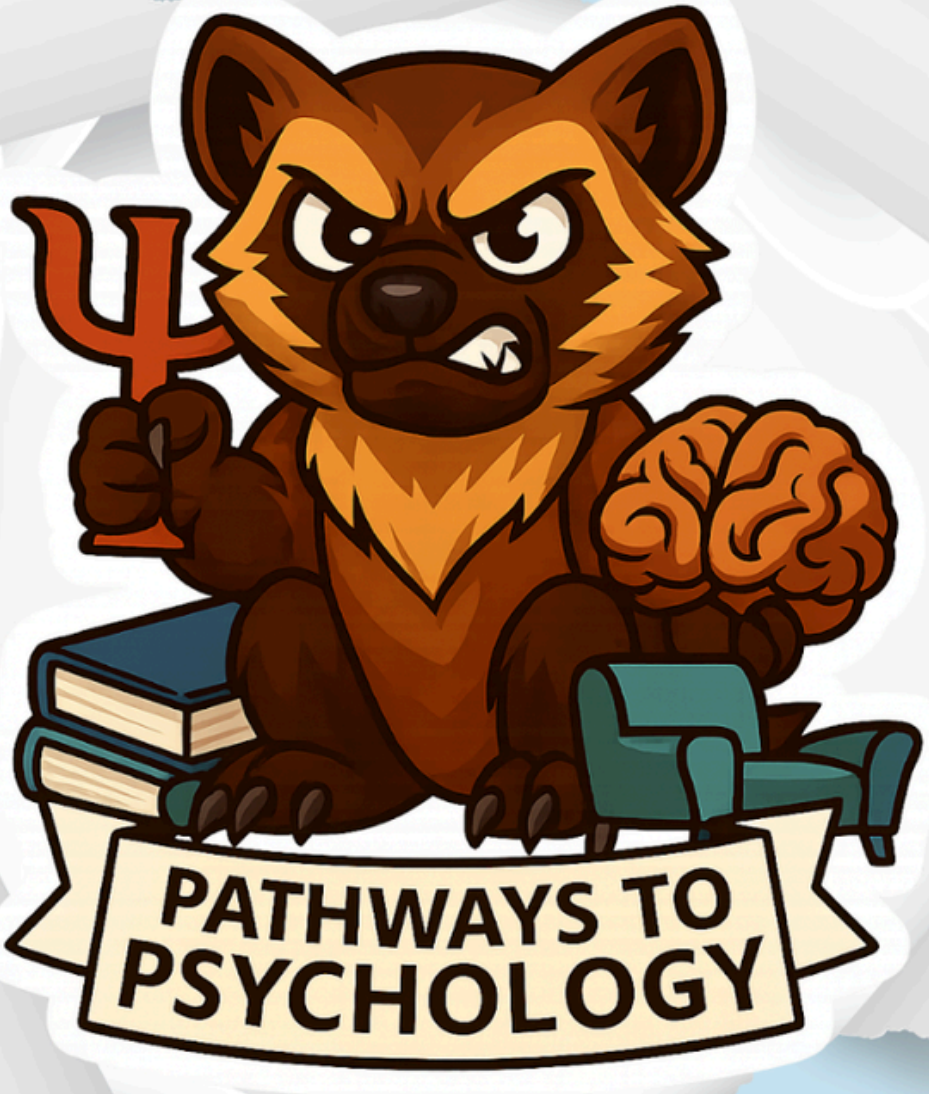
Goal 1: Learn about the many ways psychologists impact our communities.
Goal 2: Gain exposure to the numerous career pathways and various specialties in psychology.
Goal 3: Discover the complex issues that psychologists grapple with each day.

> *"For me, this camp was extremely eye opening. I had always been really interested in psychology but I had never considered it as a career path. It completely changed things for me and made me reconsider that this could be something I could do."*

Pathways to PSYCHOLOGY

Learn how psychologists heal, solve complex problems, shape our society, and make sense of the world through scientific practice

July 20-24, 2026



Thank You Scholars!

Questions?

Contact WP Associate Director:

Adrienne Hill amclabin@umich.edu