



SMI Faculty Info Sheet

Who Are We?

The Summer Medical Institute trains health professions students to put their faith into practice. Our goal is to challenge and equip a generation of healthcare professionals to utilize their God-given skills as a vehicle for expressing the life of Jesus Christ through compassionate and excellent medical care.

The SMI began in 1992 when 35 students primarily from the Medical College of Georgia went to Philadelphia to invest their summer growing in their faith in Christ while serving the medical and spiritual needs of the North Philadelphia community. Working in partnership with local churches and Esperanza Health Center, a Christian health clinic, the SMI addressed many medical and spiritual needs. After nine summers in North Philadelphia, SMI moved to the Rio Grande Valley in 2001. SMI is a multi-faceted approach to training including community-based health education and outreach campaigns on the Texas side of the Texas/Mexico border.

What do we Do?

Activities

Above all else, the SMI is a leadership institute, providing life-changing training and experiences to its participants. Through workshops led by visiting faculty, discipleship groups, bible study, and personal application, students develop a deeper understanding of biblical medicine while growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ and with their peers. Under the leadership of the Valley Baptist Family Practice Residency, the SMI offers Texas border communities free medical clinics and door-to-door canvassing.

Our health care interventions focus on hypertension and diabetes screenings and other preventive healthcare education and limited medical services, recently including a popular eyeglasses clinic. Integrated into our health survey are questions assessing people's spiritual needs. These often lead to opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

SMI participants live and eat together at a dorm in Harlingen. SMI faculty and staff also live on site, providing wonderful opportunities for relationships and mentoring. Each student participates in a discipleship group with three or four peers for deeper Bible study, fellowship, and prayer. As a faculty member, you are invited to participate in all SMI activities with the students.

Funding

The SMI is a non-profit ministry with a broad-based network of support from individuals, corporations, and churches. About two-thirds of the SMI's budget each year comes from individuals whom faculty and student participants choose to contact. As part of the SMI experience, every student joins in the faith-building process of raising support; trusting God to provide \$2,300.00 for their ministry. You are welcome to raise money, but it is not required. As a faculty member, your weekday meals, local transportation and SMI materials are provided, but you should bring spending money for weekend meals, recreational activities, and personal incidentals. If family members accompany you, you will be responsible for their costs during your stay at SMI. You are responsible for your own transportation to and from Harlingen, which our office staff can help arrange if you desire.

What is the basis for your salvation? _____

Explain why you want to serve as SMI Faculty. _____

Briefly describe any opportunities you have had that may be relevant to your SMI participation (i.e. fellowships, cross cultural exposure, ministry experience): _____

In addition to the informal teaching and mentoring that takes place during the week, would you be willing to teach SMI students in a workshop or small group setting? _____
(If you are willing and if this is a need for the curriculum, we will contact you to discuss specifics.)

Please list two references who can be contacted for recommendations:

Professional:

Name _____ Daytime Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Relationship to you: _____

Personal:

Name _____ Daytime Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Relationship to you: _____

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

1. Thank you for your willingness to apply for SMI Faculty. All applications are due by April 1st and are subject to the approval of the SMI Application Committee.
2. You will be notified of a decision no later than April 15th. If accepted, you must then confirm with us the exact dates of attendance so that we can make final preparations for your arrival.
3. You will NOT need to pursue temporary licensure for the Summer Medical Institute.

IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ THIS PAGE BEFORE YOU SIGN:

What a person believes is the foundation for both life and ministry. The following are Christian tenets to which the SMI leadership ascribes. If you disagree with any of these, please explain your differences on a separate sheet.

1. The Bible is the inspired, infallible, inerrant Word of God. (2 Tim. 3:15-17)
2. There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (John 10:30)
3. These are central truths of the Christian faith: The deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His personal return in power and glory. (Jn 1:1-5; Phil. 2:5-11, 1 Cor 15:1-6)
4. Believing in the person and work of Jesus Christ alone results in salvation; Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation. (Titus 3:4-7; Eph. 2:8-9; John 14:6; Acts 4:12)
5. The Holy Spirit's present ministry and indwelling enables the Christian to live in fellowship with God. (Gal. 5:16-23; I John 1:3-4)

The commitment of the Summer Medical Institute is "to serve and not to be served." Serving in ministry means you sometimes submit to the needs of others even in areas of biblical freedom. Paul is a model of this (Romans 14 – 15:6). Serving with the SMI means you agree to the following:

1. I am willing to set aside personal preferences, habits and schedules to fulfill the ministry of the SMI.
2. I understand there are variations in practice and understanding of Scripture in some areas of Christian living. In serving with SMI, I will abide by the standards of the SMI in all areas including dress, entertainment, activities, etc. This includes a willing agreement to abstain from the use of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco for the duration of the SMI, and being sensitive to cultural, regional, church and SMI expectations and standards. See the enclosed "Policies and Procedures" page for a description of SMI expectations and standards.
3. I will seek to provide excellent medical care and to present Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

I have read the SMI application and accept its provisions and agree to live, work and serve in accordance with them. I, the undersigned, also realize that in accepting a term of volunteer service, it is with the clear understanding that SMI does not assume responsibility for loss of my property, damage to the same, personal harm or illness that may come to those who travel with me or myself. I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, in consideration of my admission to volunteer service and other good and valuable considerations, do hereby release and forever discharge SMI, the Valley Baptist Health System, the Valley Baptist Family Practice Residency and Rio Grande Valley Medical Missions from liability for any claim or demand that I or my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns might otherwise assert upon the basis of any of the foregoing. In volunteering, I recognize that I do not become an agent or employee of SMI in rendering my services and I agree to hold SMI harmless from any claim that might arise out of any acts performed by me while serving as an SMI volunteer.

Signed this _____ day of _____,

Applicant for Summer Medical Institute, Volunteer Service

Last 4 digits of Social Security No.