

Future Marine Scientist Academy - Parent Information Form

Future Marine Scientist Academy (FMSA) is a program started by the Chincoteague Bay Field Station to allow for high school students to have an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the Marine Science field. This program is open to high school students with a goal of preparing them for future careers in marine and environmental science through field and classroom-based learning experiences and professional development opportunities. Along with the marine science courses, students will learn resume building skills, attend practice interview sessions, connect with professionals in the marine and environmental science industry, explore different career and degree tracks within the marine and environmental science field, and gain hands-on experience with field and laboratory equipment.

The course work and field experiences will be based on our current marine and environmental science programming and is intended to cover a wide variety of topics in the field. Courses offered include but are not limited to Dune and Barrier Island Ecology, Micro and Macro Organism Lab, Aquarium Maintenance and Animal Husbandry, Scientific Writing and Communication with Interpretation skills, and Oceanography Research Cruise. Because CBFS has a robust and longstanding relationship with many colleges and universities that offer marine and environmental science courses of study, we are also able to offer participants in the Future Marine Scientist Academy the opportunity for professional development and to connect with professors, college students, and universities that can help them achieve their career goals. At least one session will be dedicated primarily to professional development, including reading scientific papers, learning how to communicate scientific language to others, data interpretation skills, exploring different college and career options, and networking with professionals in the field. Professional development and networking opportunities will also be woven throughout the program, with opportunities to explore college and university programming, speak with and learn from university professors, participate in college-level programming, and network with leaders in local organizations, such as Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge and Assateague Island National Seashore. Participants will also work with a variety of Chincoteague Bay Field Station staff, who have diverse backgrounds and skill sets. Transportation and lunch will be provided for all students while they are participating in FMSA.

Below are the expectations for these students:

Expectations:

- Students will arrive at their home high school at the times listed on each month's schedule to be picked up by CBFS staff. Transportation will be provided to and from field sites. Students will be dropped off at the listed time on each month's schedule.
- Students will adhere to any safety instructions given to them by CBFS staff and partners.
- Students will use any equipment as instructed by CBFS staff.
- Students will be given field notebooks to take notes as they see fit.
- Students will come prepared with any specific clothing items as noted prior to each session.
- This is the student's field experience; we want them to participate and contribute questions and ideas to make their experience enjoyable and beneficial!
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Dates:

- February 4th or 10th
- March 3rd or 9th
- April 7th or 13th
- May 5th or 11th

Parental Agreement

I, _____ (Parent/Guardian name), understand and give permission to, _____ (student name), to participate in FMSA. I understand what my student has signed up for and will support them in participating in this program.

Parent Signature

Date