

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

University of Montana News Releases, 1928,
1956-present

University Relations

7-20-1999

Great Falls students prepare for health careers

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Great Falls students prepare for health careers" (1999). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 16096.
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/16096>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.



The University of
Montana

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • MISSOULA, MT 59812 • 406-243-2522 • FAX: 406-243-4520

NEWS RELEASE

This release is available electronically on INN (News Net.)

July 20, 1999

Contact: Reno LoParco, project coordinator, (406) 243-4095.

GREAT FALLS STUDENTS PREPARE FOR HEALTH CAREERS

MISSOULA--

Future health professionals are getting a jump on their studies in an innovative summer program at The University of Montana.

William Dess and Sienna Olson, both of **Great Falls**, are among 21 participants in UM's Health Careers Opportunity Program, a six-week session that will conclude July 31.

HCOP's mission is to prepare minority students for the rigorous academic challenges that lie ahead of them in a health-related field of study. With a curriculum focused on Montana Indians, the program takes a culturally relevant approach to intensive study, academic orientation and recreational activities.

Students tackle tough subjects like math and science within the context of weekly themes such as youth tobacco use, substance abuse and diabetes and nutrition. Other activities include community service projects, research observation and job shadowing.

Dess, a member of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa, is a 1999 graduate of Charles M. Russell High School. He plans to attend Montana State University-Billings this fall. He is interested in a career in physical therapy.

Olson is a native of Hawaii. She is involved with several community organizations, including Girl Scouts, 4-H and the National Honor Society, and plans to earn a degree in pharmacy.

-more-

HCOPwd.rl--2

HCOP applicants must have completed their junior year in high school and need a grade-point average of at least 2.5. They may be residents of any state and are not required to attend UM after completing HCOP. Participants are selected based on a combination of essays, letters of recommendations, academic performance and personal history.

To cover their expenses, students receive a stipend of \$1,680, as well as reimbursement for round-trip travel costs. UM's HCOP program, one of more than 200 nationwide, is funded through a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services.

###

PS
Great Falls Tribune
HCOPwd.rl