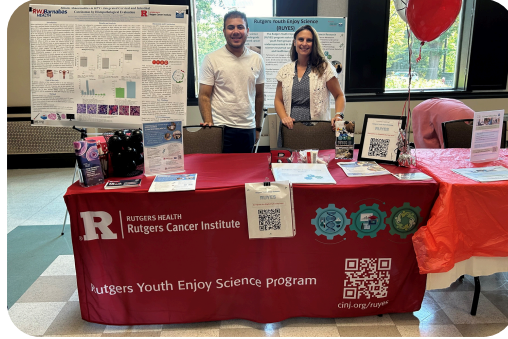
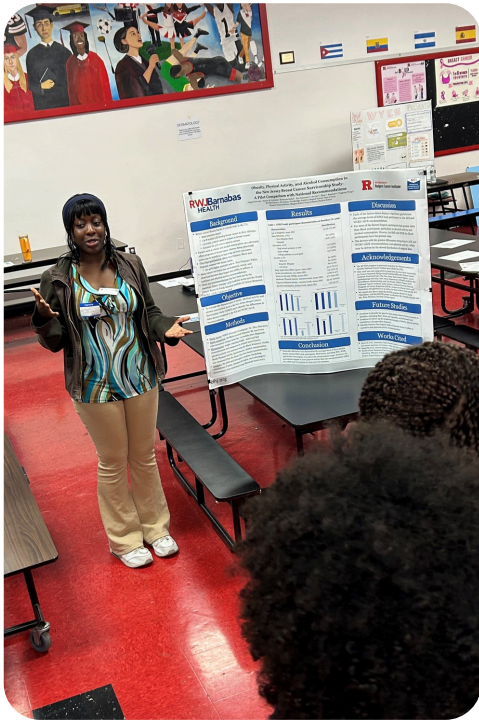


JANUARY 2025

# RUTGERS YOUTH ENJOY SCIENCE *RUYES WATCH*



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## ABOUT RUYES

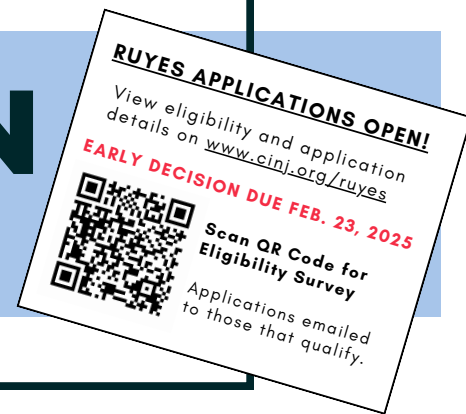
The Rutgers Youth Enjoy Science (RUYES) program seeks to encourage youth from groups that are underrepresented in the biomedical sciences to pursue cancer research and healthcare careers.

## APPLICATION

Applications are open through February 23, 2025 for Early Decision!  
Visit: [www.cinj.org/ruyes](http://www.cinj.org/ruyes) to apply. Email us at [RUYES@cinj.rutgers.edu](mailto:RUYES@cinj.rutgers.edu)

RUYES program is funded by the National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute grant 1R25CA247785.

# APPLICATION PROCESS



## Becoming a RUYES Participant

You must submit an application to be considered for the RUYES research experience. Once your application has been submitted, it will be reviewed by RUYES program staff, application review committee, and Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey Principal Investigators (PI) who are interested in being mentors.

You will complete an interview during our match process, attend a mandatory human resources seminar, and prepare the necessary paperwork to begin onboarding.

## TEACHERS

High school science teachers from schools with large populations of students from underrepresented backgrounds can participate in mentored cancer research and curriculum development through the RUYES program

## STUDENTS

Students from low socioeconomic backgrounds, underrepresented groups in STEM, or who are first-generation college-bound will have the opportunity to participate in mentored cancer research, professional development, and cancer-focused community outreach through RUYES.

## Application Timeline



**February 23**  
Early Decision



**February 27**  
Application Review



**March 4**  
First Round Decisions



**Week of March 10**  
Zoom Panel Interviews



**April 2**  
Human Resources  
Presentation



**Week of March 24**  
Finalists and Mentors  
Interviews



**June of 2025**  
RUYES Orientation  
Start Dates



# PAST EVENTS

## NOVEMBER 2024

### Topic

Rutgers Youth Enjoy Science (RUYES)  
Mini-RUYES Day for high school and undergraduate students

### Activity

- November 7, high school and undergrad day at Rutgers Cancer Institute with presentation by Naomi Tan, PhD and Principal Investigator

### Hosted by

Casandra Gabriele & Rosa Messina, Program Coordinators and Rutgers Cancer Institute

## NOVEMBER 2024-JANUARY 2025

### Topic

RUYES Information Sessions (via Zoom)

### Activity

- November 25 at 4pm: HS Students
- December 13 at 2pm: Undergrads
- January 13 at 4pm: Teachers

### Register Here:

<https://go.rutgers.edu/79dnoy4p>

### Hosted by

Casandra Gabriele & Rosa Messina, Program Coordinators & RUYES Participants

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## NOVEMBER 2024

### Topic

Woodbridge High School Health & Research Symposium

### Activity

- RUYES participants will present research.
- Presentation by Rutgers Department of Nutritional Sciences
- Genetic Counsellor, Melissa Gandhi, MS LGC
- Information tables & stations

### Hosted by

Angelise Benimadho and Maria Tolentino, RUYES, Rutgers Cancer Institute

## 2024-2025 FIELD TRIPS\*

**Rutgers Youth Enjoy Science** is hosting upcoming field trips for schools associated with our program!

**DECEMBER 2024 & JANUARY 2025**  
at Rutgers Cancer Institute

### **Thursday, December 19th**

Woodbridge High School, Maria Tolentino, RUYES  
Bayonne High School, Georgeanne Osanya, RUYES

### **Thursday, January 23rd**

High Tech High School, Arun Srivastava, RUYES  
Linden High School, Pramila Natarajan & Tristan Mondesir, RUYES

### **Thursday, January 24th**

Union City High School, Paul Orbe, RUYES  
Passaic County Technical Institute, Scott Ryan, RUYES

\*Teachers trained through the RUYES program have the opportunity for a student field trip to Rutgers Cancer Institute. Don't forget to email [rues@cinj.rutgers.edu](mailto:rues@cinj.rutgers.edu) to book your time (60 days notice is required).

# WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL MINI-HEALTH FAIR



On November 20, 2024, Woodbridge High School under the direction of Maria Tolentino, RUYES Teacher and Woodbridge Youth Enjoy Science (W-YES) advisor presented a mini-health fair for its students.

Presentations were given by:

- Virginia Quick, Ph.D., RD, FAND, Director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics at Rutgers University
- Melissa Gandhi, MS, LGC, Genetic Counselor at Rutgers Cancer Institute
- Dominique Grogue Woodbridge High School graduate now at Colgate University
- Kaylee Cayuche Woodbridge High School graduate now at Montclair State University



Research poster presentations were given by Rutgers Youth Enjoy Science (RUYES) participants:

- Ileana Gonzalez of The College of New Jersey
- Abigail Ibranke of Woodbridge Academy Magnet School
- Angelse Benimadho of Woodbridge High School

Rutgers Cancer Institute, Rutgers University and Woodbridge High School Students including the W-YES club had tables set up for additional information in various health fields, nutrition and RUYES program information.

## RUTGERS YOUTH ENJOY SCIENCE FIELD TRIPS

On December 19, 2024, three schools in collaboration with Rutgers Youth Enjoy Science (RUYES), visited Rutgers Cancer Institute for some hands-on learning and activities.

Woodbridge High School students, under the supervision of Maria Tolentino, teacher and RUYES trainee, Bayonne High School students, directed by Georgeanne Osanya, teacher and RUYES trainee, and Jose Marti STEM Academy, directed by Natalia Coleman, teacher and RUYES trainee were in attendance.

Students learned about Human Papillomavirus (HPV), its integration into human DNA, and its association with cancer through a presentation given by Eleanor (Nellie) Agosta, BS (MD/PhD student) from lab of Cristina Montagna, PhD.

During the remainder of the day, students were engaged in activities such as an experiment to show the effects of vaping on the lungs, learning proper pipetting technique and tours of Rutgers Cancer Institute.

***A special thanks to Dr. Steven Libutti and his lab for allowing our students to visit.***

***A special thanks to Nellie Agosta and Dr. Cristina Montagna for sharing your research.***

