

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Omaha | Medical Center



# uBEATS

UNO & UNMC Building Excellence in Academics Through STEM

**IMPACT REPORT 2023**

# PAVING PATHWAYS

## for Health Science and STEM Careers



**THE FUTURE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND STEM CAREERS STARTS HERE.**

uBEATS exposes 6-12th grade students to health science and STEM education and careers to develop a stronger workforce for Nebraska and beyond.

### We Guide Students Toward Early Health Sciences and STEM Education

Making uBEATS accessible to any student in any school in Nebraska and beyond is a driving force behind the program.

- ⊗ We provide interactive e-learning modules in STEM and health science education so students can access the material regardless of where they live.
- ⊗ Our modules are available online 24/7, so teachers and students can access them at their convenience.
- ⊗ uBEATS material serves as a companion resource to core curriculum.
- ⊗ We rely on donations to provide uBEATS at no cost to teachers, students, schools, or taxpayers and to ensure equal program access.

### Where the uBEATS Path Leads

- ⊗ uBEATS introduces students early on to health science and STEM.
- ⊗ The program sparks their interest, fuels their aptitude, and ignites their confidence to pursue higher education and careers in these fields.
- ⊗ Developing this future workforce prevents shortages in careers that are essential to the health and wellbeing of people and communities.
- ⊗ A larger STEM and health sciences labor pool reduces the likelihood of unmet health care needs in Nebraska, especially in rural and underserved urban areas.

## uBEATS MAKES FOR A HEALTHIER PATH FORWARD

The need for health sciences and STEM professionals is growing, but the ability to meet those needs is uncertain. Without programs like uBEATS, we could be facing a future of labor shortages that lead to untreatable diseases, unmet health needs, and health care inequities. uBEATS is the foundation of a stronger workforce that helps individuals, their loved ones, and our communities thrive.

# uBEATS by the Numbers

SINCE 2020

**56%**

of students from  
**Nebraska**

**26,365**

students enrolled  
in uBEATS

**33**

states with  
uBEATS students

**87**

interactive  
modules

**7**

content  
areas

(Genetics, Pathology  
and Microbiology,  
Pharmacology, Careers,  
Public Health, Cancer,  
Academic Success)

**86%**

positive satisfaction  
rate from **teachers**

**75%**

positive satisfaction  
rate from **students**

## GROWTH BETWEEN 2020 – 2023

- ✓ Enrollments up 37%
- ✓ Number of modules up 35%
- ✓ Module completions up 98%
- ✓ Summative assessment average score up 16%



# Praise for uBEATS



"This free, interactive resource provides meaningful content to the

health science educators we are honored to serve. Given the United States healthcare worker shortages, the National Consortium for Health Science Education is especially interested in supporting uBEATS' ability to promote and expose students to the health professions."

## **Nancy H. Allen**

Executive Director  
National Consortium for  
Health Science Education



"uBEATS is an excellent platform to expose students to complex scientific concepts.

It is an easy, fast, and fun way to get foundational information to children early in their educational process."

## **Dr. Jesse E. Bell**

Claire M. Hubbard Professor of Water, Climate, and Health  
Executive Director of the Water, Climate, and Health Program  
Director of Water, Climate, and Health at Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute  
College of Public Health  
University of Nebraska Medical Center



"I am impressed with the uBEATS program. It is a great resource to help students

explore other interests and future careers. Having a program backed by research and developed by leading experts in the medical and science fields available to our students is an invaluable resource."

## **Elizabeth Lambert**

Instructional Coach  
Bellevue Public Schools

"uBEATS has been an integral part of my classroom. It has given my students a different way to view healthcare careers. My students have enjoyed learning at their own pace, and they enjoy how interactive the modules are."

## **Joanna Liscombe**

Health Science Teacher/  
Assistant Athletic Trainer  
Myrtle Beach High School

## VALIDATION

- ✓ Nationally endorsed by the National Consortium for Health Science Education.
- ✓ Aligned with Next Generation Science Standards, National Health Science Standards, and Nebraska Science and Health Science Standards.
- ✓ Verified standards on national and state levels.



## OUR VISION FOR THE PATH AHEAD

- ⊗ Expand education pathways with additional modules, such as behavioral health, medical terminology, and nutrition.
- ⊗ Increase the impact of the program through increased enrollment and module completions.
- ⊗ Improve the effectiveness of the program as demonstrated by higher learning assessment scores.
- ⊗ Promote inclusivity by developing uBEATS modules for Spanish speakers.
- ⊗ Develop digital badging that will help uBEATS students be sought-after candidates for colleges, universities, and employers. Badges are shareable digital assets that demonstrate students' initiative, experience, and commitment to their area of study.