



# UPWARD BOUND COLLEGE PREP ACADEMY

2 Turner Student Services Building  
610 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820

## Fact Sheet

### What is Upward Bound?

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**Upward Bound** is a federally funded program operating under the guidelines of the *United States Department of Education*. **Upward Bound** is designed to identify students interested in attending college and to equip these students with the skills necessary to succeed in college. We attempt to offset academic deficiencies and certain environmental deficiencies through the provision of tutorials, classroom instruction, and educational/cultural activities. In addition, students are exposed to a variety of activities designed to promote early career exploration. A strong emphasis is placed on **Math, Writing, Reading, Science, and Study Skills**. The **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** has served as the host institution for the **Upward Bound College Prep Academy** since 1966. Currently there are over 700 Upward Bound Programs located at various colleges and universities throughout the country.

### Who Attends Upward Bound?

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**Upward Bound** is open to students from all ethnic backgrounds. Most programs are composed of students from both rural and urban areas. High School students **who have begun their freshman year but have not entered their senior year are eligible to apply for Upward Bound**. The student's family must be eligible under the income guidelines determined by the *United States Department of Education* **OR** meet the potential first-generation criteria. **Upward Bound's** administrative staff selects the students who will attend the program. High school students from the Champaign-Urbana and Rantoul areas are eligible to participate in the **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Upward Bound College Prep Academy**.

### What are the Main Features of Upward Bound?

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**Upward Bound** is divided into **TWO** major components: A *Summer Residential Component* and an *Academic Year Component*.

- **Summer Residential Component-** The Summer Residential Component is an intensive six-week session which takes place on the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus. During this period, the **Upward Bound** students live in a residence hall and attend classes designed to improve their academic skills. Field trips to cultural events and visits to other colleges and universities are just two of the activities undertaken during the Summer Residential Component.

- **Academic Year Component-** The Academic Year Component is primarily a follow-up to the Summer Residential Component. Classroom instruction continues during the Academic Year Component. Students are required to attend tutorial sessions every Monday and Wednesday and test preparation workshops. In addition, students participate in and are provided the following services: ACT Test Preparation, Tutorial Assistance in High School Subjects, Counseling and Advisement, Field Trips, Career Cluster Group, Mentor-Protégé Program, and Financial Aid Advisement. Furthermore, students receive assistance with college applications, college placement tests and completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This process has been facilitated by the implementation of the *Junior/Senior Support Group* which both students and their parents attend.

The two components combined make the **Upward Bound** experience a continuous process from the time the student enters the program until she/he enters the post-secondary institution of their choice. Emphasis is placed upon students acquiring the skills necessary for acceptance into a college or university; and once accepted, competing on an equitable plane with their peers. **Upward Bound** seeks to accomplish this goal through providing a myriad of academic and extra-curricular activities complimented by various cultural and social events.

## How Do I Become Part of Upward Bound?

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1. Complete and submit the student application for admission along with a copy of the following information:
  - **Parent's most recent Federal Income Tax Forms (i.e. 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ)**
  - **Student's most recent grade report**
  - **Standardized Test Scores**
  - **Counselor Recommendation Form**  
(To be completed by the student's high school counselor)
2. Demonstrate academic potential and a need for academic support in order to successfully complete high school and some form of post-secondary education.
3. Meet the requirement for a *first-generation* college student (neither parent has obtained a 4-Year Degree) OR meet the income guidelines determined by the *U.S. Department of Education*, along with the criteria established by the Upward Bound Office.
4. You must be a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident of the United States (Unless evidence is provided from the Immigration and Naturalization Services that you are in the U.S. for other than a temporary purpose).
5. When the application is complete and have been returned to the Upward Bound Office, you may be invited to schedule an interview with the Director or the Assistant Director of Upward Bound to discuss your application and determine the extent to which you are serious about continuing and completing your education. At this time you will be considered for selection to participate in the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Upward Bound College Prep Academy.

**For further information, please telephone the Upward Bound Office at (217) 333-1889**