

FAQ's – Frequently Asked Questions about the Application Process for Upward Bound

Am I accepted to the program if I turn in a complete application?

No, however each student that turns in a complete application will receive an interview. The Upward Bound staff will then review all the applications and select those students who are the best fit for the program. More students apply than there are available spaces.

I am not the best student – should I still fill out the application?

Yes. We are not looking for the “perfect student”. We are looking for students who want to go to college and need help preparing for college. We know that some students struggle in certain areas, and we can provide the assistance to help them succeed in classes.

I would prefer not to share my income information – do I really need to provide the information?

Yes. You must provide your income information in order to be accepted. We understand and respect your right to privacy regarding your income. According to federal law (FERPA) and program policy, all income documentation is kept strictly confidential.

I don't receive government assistance or I think we make too much money, so I don't think I will qualify for this program. Should I still apply?

Absolutely! A student is eligible for the program if neither parent has received a 4-year degree OR if families meet income guidelines. You may be surprised what income qualifies because it is based on “taxable” and not “gross” income. Two-thirds of our students must meet income guidelines and first generation guidelines according to federal regulations. Income guidelines can be found at www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/incomelevels.html.

Whose information do I put if I live with someone other than my parents?

You must put your LEGAL guardians' information on the parent/guardian section and financial section. Even if you stay with someone else other than your parents, you must put your parents' information if they have LEGAL custody. (For example, if you live with your grandparents and they are your legal guardian, then you would put your grandparents' information on the form. If you live with your grandparents and your parents still have LEGAL custody of you, then you must put your parent's information on the form.)

How much does the program cost?

All services and costs for the program are provided for FREE. All trip and events costs are covered by Upward Bound including: hotel, travel, event tickets, and meals. Parents are required to provide transportation to and from the local high school.

Is this program only for students that plan to go to Mineral Area College?

No. Students can attend any college they choose after participating in the Upward Bound program. We encourage students to look at many different colleges to find a college that fits their personal needs. We take students to visit other college campuses every year.