



Academic Institute of Central Carolina  
**UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM**

### **Introduction**

Upward Bound is a federally funded program designed to assist low income and/or potential first generation students gain the skills, confidence, and motivation necessary for college success. The Upward Bound Program at Academic Institute of Central Carolina will serve a maximum of 60 students. Students may enter the program as a freshman, sophomore, or junior in high school. Students will remain with the program until the summer preceding their enrollment into a post-secondary institution. The Upward Bound Program maintains contact with each student throughout the student's college career.

### **Academic Tutorial Assistance**

The Upward Bound academic year begins in October and ends in May. In order to increase students' overall academic performance, the Upward Bound Program mandates students attend at least two hours of tutorial assistance per week. Tutorial assistance is offered Tuesday & Thursday from 3pm-6pm online and in person at the Upward Bound office. Students must also attend Academic Saturday sessions **TWICE** a month. During these monthly sessions, students attend classes in Math, English, Science, and Foreign Language and STEM emphasis classes. Overall, class sizes are small, which ensures every student receives personal attention. Additionally, small classes offer an environment, which is conducive to learning.

### **Summer Program and Summer Bridge Program**

During the six-week summer program, Upward Bound students reside on a college campus in order to experience college life. The program participants are enrolled in courses such as Math, English, Science, Foreign Language, Art, Testing Techniques, and Communication Skills. Teachers from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and area colleges and universities will instruct all Academic Saturday sessions and summer program classes.

Upward Bound high school graduates enter the Bridge Program during the summer preceding their college enrollment. As the name suggests, the Bridge Program helps bridge the gap between high school and post secondary study. Bridge students enroll in two academic courses during a college summer school session. If certain academic requirements are met, the college credits are transferred to the student's prospective institution. Additionally, if a Bridge student's prospective institution has an Upward Bound Program, then he/she is encouraged to attend that institution's Bridge Program. Professors from Central Piedmont Community College will instruct the summer bridge classes.

### **Additional Services**

Throughout the year, Upward Bound students attend workshops, forums, and seminars on topics such as Time Management, Diversity Awareness, and Communication Skills. During each program year, Upward Bound



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students participate in several college tours. Educational and cultural trips, such as visits to museums, concerts, and plays are incorporated into the program schedule.

The program assists students in applying to colleges and universities by providing applications and fee waivers for both college and placement exams such as The American College Testing (ACT) program test and the Standardized Aptitude Test (SAT). Grade reviews with each student are conducted quarterly. Additionally, contacts with high school counselors are made periodically.

While all services and assistance provided by the Upward Bound Program are free, students and parents are required to invest a sincere commitment of time and participation in all activities.

### **Upward Bound Check List**

Prospective Upward Bound Participant:

Please complete the following items in their entirety. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the processing of your application. If you have any questions, please contact us at (704) 566.9036.

- Upward Bound Application
- Guidance Counselor Recommendation Form
- Teacher Recommendation Form
- Income Documentation:
  - Tax Returns or;
  - Social Security Statements or;
  - Child Support statement(s) or;
  - TANF or;
  - Other pertinent income information
- Essay Completion (Required Typed)

### **Notes**

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