

The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley™

UPWARD BOUND

BROWNSVILLE

ACHIEVE

YOUR

HIGHER
EDUCATION

GOALS

LET'S DO THIS!

Application Package

The Upward Bound Program at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley is proud to provide students enrolled in the participating campuses, the opportunity to participate in a college preparatory program. Numerous students in the RGV communities who have been a part of the program over the past 20 years are now successful college students, and productive members of their respective communities.

A long-term commitment, Upward Bound is an opportunity to guarantee success to those that are selected for participation and who are willing to work hard and dedicate themselves to the project.

We hope that you will consider applying to our program and make the commitment for excellence in education.

Janie Llanas
Director of Special Programs
UTRGV Upward Bound Brownsville

Purpose

Upward Bound is a college preparatory program funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The program is designed to generate the knowledge, skills, and motivation necessary for success in postsecondary school.

Eligible Participants

Participants must be students from the Brownsville Independent School District high schools – Lopez, Porter, Rivera – who are in the 9th, 10th, or 11th grade and who meet federal eligibility requirements. Seniors are not eligible.

Federal Requirements

- Two-thirds of the UTRGV Upward Bound participants must meet income criteria and must be first-generation college students.
- One-third of the students may be either low-income or a first-generation college student. First-generation college students are those who have had neither parent complete a bachelor's degree. All participants must be citizens of the United States or permanent resident aliens.
- All students must have the potential for success in postsecondary school, but must be in need of academic support and/or assistance to assure entrance into and success in college.
- All applicants must have a marked interest in pursuing a postsecondary education.

Academic Year

During the school year, the program provides academic services to students on a weekly basis. Enrichment classes are held up to two Saturdays each month, offering special work in mathematics, reading, grammar, computer science, college research, and career research. The program also offers tutoring, Monday through Thursday, during lunch, in-class and/or after school. Counseling services are provided in the areas of academics, financial assistance, and college/career exploration.

Participants who are seniors in high school are assisted with the college admissions process. This process includes the completion of applications for admission, college entry exams and financial aid.

Each student's academic abilities are evaluated annually, and an educational college preparation plan is reviewed in order to align program services with the participant's academic goals.

Summer Program

During the summer, students must participate in a six-week, nonresidential program. Students attend college-simulated classes or college credit courses, and other enrichment classes, on campus Monday through Friday.

The summer program assists students in obtaining the skills and motivation necessary to succeed in postsecondary school. Students are taught, whenever possible, by college faculty and personnel. Students attend lectures and classes designed to meet the goals of the program.

Cost

There is no cost to the student. Students may also receive a stipend for active regular participation.

Application Information

New participants are recruited through the middle and high school counseling offices, classroom presentations, and by recommendations. Students may obtain applications from their school counselors or by contacting the UTRGV Upward Bound Office at their respective high school campus.

Completed applications must be returned by announced deadlines. Applicants must also complete a parent/student interview to be considered for acceptance into the program.

No student is denied admission to Upward Bound because of religion, race, national origin, gender, or physical handicap.

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Acceptance into this program is competitive, based on participant vacancies, and a minimum score obtained in the following criteria:

1. Income/Parent Education Status
2. Transcripts/Academic Need
3. Counselor and Teacher Recommendations
4. Student Interview
5. Parental Interview
6. Application/Documentation

****Completion of this application does not guarantee acceptance to the Upward Bound Program.**

For more information:

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Upward Bound Program
One West University Blvd.
Brownsville, TX 78520
Phone: (956) 882-3846

Application Checklist:

- A completed application must be returned to either your high school counselor or to the UTRGV Upward Bound Office. Electronic applications are also available.
- It is the responsibility of the student to assure completion of the application, including the letters of recommendation (two from core curriculum teachers and one from a counselor). Check with the teachers to whom you gave recommendation forms.

A completed application consists of these items:

- Application form with all applicable questions answered completely.
- Proof of citizenship or legal citizenship status.
- Income verification.
 - A copy of parent/guardian's latest income tax Form 1040 if filed, or
 - Income verification form for those who do not file an income tax return is included in the application. It must be notarized/signed.
- Official high school transcript or 8th grade transcript for prospective 9th grade applicants.
- Available test scores and may include any of the following: PSAT, ACT and other state mandated exams.
- Three recommendations.
 - One counselor
 - Two teachers (core subject courses required).

Note:

Make sure you and your parent or guardian sign as directed. Acceptance into Upward Bound is highly competitive. Do not miss this opportunity by not completing the application.

Please Print Personal Information

Name _____ Student ID _____

Permanent Address _____

Phone Number: Home _____ Cell _____ Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Are you a U.S. citizen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If not, what is your resident alien card number? _____

Place of Birth: Country _____ State _____ City _____ County _____ DOB ____/____/____

Ethnic Background: _____ Other _____ American Indian _____ Black/Afro American _____
_____ White/Caucasian _____ Hispanic/Spanish _____ Asian American

Are you physically handicapped? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, please describe _____

Have either of your natural parents earned a bachelor's degree?

(A four-year college degree) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are/have any brothers or sisters (been) in Upward Bound? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, where? _____

What high school do you attend? _____ Counselor's Name: _____

What grade are you in? ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11

What was your GPA and class rank at the end of last semester?

GPA _____ Rank _____ out of _____

Are you enrolled in another similar program (ex: GEAR UP, Talent Search)?

Notice

If you are NOT a citizen of the United States, please complete this page. This is an important part of your application, do not leave blank.

Are you a permanent resident of the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How long have you lived in the United States? Years _____ Months _____

Do you live with your parents? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you plan to become a U.S. citizen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have a resident alien card? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What is your resident alien card number? _____

Date

Signature

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	Father	Mother
Name	_____	_____
Birth Date	_____ Age _____	_____ Age _____
Occupation	_____	_____
Employer	_____	_____
Work Phone	_____	_____
Education	_____	_____
U.S. Citizen	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Parents' Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Living Together <input type="checkbox"/> Living Apart <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Father Remarried <input type="checkbox"/> Mother Remarried <input type="checkbox"/> Father Deceased <input type="checkbox"/> Mother Deceased	

If married, date of marriage _____

If divorced, date of divorce _____

With whom do you live? _____

Siblings (List oldest first)

Name	Gender	Age	Living at home	School or work	Grade/Education Level
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Other Family/People Living With You

Name	Gender	Age	Living at home	School or work	Grade/Education Level
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____



Autobiography: (This must be completed; use additional sheets if necessary.)

CHILDHOOD (Birth/Family/Home Life/Early Education)

TEEN YEARS (Education/Jobs/Interests/Hobbies/School, Church and Other Activities)

FUTURE PLANS (Life Goals, Career Plans, Etc.)

OTHER (Include Hobbies, Interests, and Other Activities if Not Mentioned Above)

Total Taxable Income: _____ (attach signed tax form to application)

Complete the following if you do not file an income tax form.

Income Verification Form

Federal regulations require that verification of family income must be submitted as part of the application/admission process for Upward Bound. If you were not required to file an income tax return for the last calendar year, you must complete this form AND SIGN IT.

I/We declare that no federal income tax return was filed by the undersigned for the last tax period and that all income received during that year was as follows:

SOURCE	AMOUNT
Veterans Benefit	\$ _____
Child Support	\$ _____
Welfare	\$ _____
Unemployment	\$ _____
Retirement	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____

Tax Year _____

Parent or Guardian Signature

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

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Student Contract

I, _____, agree that if I am accepted into the Upward Bound Program at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley I will:

1. Abide by all rules and regulations of the program and UTRGV.
2. Attend all sessions of both the academic year and summer components, unless I have just cause for absence.
3. Make serious effort to successfully pass all of my high school courses with a B (80) average or better.
4. Strive continually to improve my high school grades through attendance, punctuality, class participation, homework, and all other requirements.
5. Follow the recommendations of Upward Bound staff to attend after-school tutoring, and tutoring when my grades are not meeting appropriate standards.
6. Cooperate with faculty, staff and other students at Upward Bound.
7. Remain in Upward Bound through my high school graduation.
8. Participate in the Upward Bound Bridge Program after high school graduation (if available).
9. Make every attempt to enter and complete a postsecondary school program after high school graduation and Upward Bound participation.
10. Provide follow-up information to the project on my success in obtaining a postsecondary degree.

Student Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

Parent Contract

I, _____, hereby give my son/daughter, _____ permission to participate in all UTRGV Upward Bound activities for the duration of the program. Upon attending the Upward Bound orientation, I have received a copy of proposed activities, reviewed program objectives policies and procedures. I clearly understand the provided information and commit to ensuring my son/daughter meets all program requirements and expectations.

Parent Signature: _____ Student Signature: _____

Consent for Release of Academic Records

I, _____, hereby grant permission to The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Upward Bound Program to obtain any, and all, of my academic records, inclusive of grade speed access, progress reports, end of six weeks report cards, complete and official high school transcripts, state mandated testing scores and records, teacher evaluations, and any, and all, college academic transcripts and records. I understand these records will only be used internally by the project on an individual basis during academic and college preparation planning as well as related academic meeting or meetings. I also understand that compiled records on a group basis may include any and all of these records. This compiled information will be used to meet federal regulations of program evaluation and ensure credits earned both in high school and through UTRGV are properly documented with BISD and UTRGV.

None of my identified, individual records will be released to any other person, corporation, organization, or present or future employer.

Student Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

Academic Support Services

I, _____ am in need of academic support and instruction (to prepare for success in college) in the following areas: (Check all that apply)

BASIC SKILLS

- ☐ Math
- ☐ Writing
- ☐ Reading
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Social Studies
- ☐ Computer Literacy

OTHER AREAS

- ☐ SAT/ACT Prep
- ☐ Study skills
- ☐ State mandated exam
- ☐ PSAT
- ☐ TSI
- Other _____

Permission to Participate and Media Release Form

I, _____ and, _____ hereby give The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley the absolute right and permission to copyright and/or publish, or use videotape, film footage, photographic portraits or pictures in which I/my son or daughter may be included in whole or in part, or in conjunction with my own/my son or daughters or a fictitious name, or reproductions thereof in color, black and white or otherwise, made through any media location for photojournalism, art, advertising, trade or any other lawful purpose whatsoever.

We, the participants and parent, hereby release, discharge and agree to save UTRGV from any liability by virtue of any blurring, distortion, alteration, implication, optical illusion or use in a composite form, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking of said pictures, or in any processing tending toward the completion of the finished product.

Student Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

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CERTIFICATION

I the undersigned, certify there is no intent to commit fraud. I certify that to the best of my knowledge, the above information is complete, correct and true. I am also aware the information provided will be used to determine eligibility and that it is subject to external verification and may be released for such purposes. I am also aware that I am subject to immediate termination from the Upward Bound Program, if I am found ineligible after enrollment as a result of falsifying information on the application and may be prosecuted for fraud and/or perjury.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian _____ Date _____

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, veteran status or disability. La Universidad de Tejas de el Valle del Río Grande no discrimina a nadie en base a su raza, color, nacionalidad, genero, edad, ser veteranos o discapacidad.

The Upward Bound Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education. *El Programa Upward Bound es inanceado por el Departamento de Educación de los Estados Unidos.* (L/P - PO47A220791 \$359,836, R - PO47A220750 \$312,478)

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Teacher Recommendation for Student Participation in UTRGV Upward Bound

Student _____ School _____

Teacher _____ Subject _____

Length of time you have known this student _____

Upward Bound is a program designed to generate knowledge, skills, and motivation for success in postsecondary school. Participants should have the ability to succeed in postsecondary school even though they may not now be demonstrating all of the characteristics of successful students. Please rate this student by checking the appropriate response to these statements.

5- Strongly agree

4- Agree

3- Neither agree/disagree

2- Disagree

1- Strongly disagree

- | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Expresses interest in academic endeavors. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 2. Demonstrates responsible behavior. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 3. Relates well to peers. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 4. Cooperates with school staff. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 5. Is dependable and reliable. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 6. Would benefit from supplemental academic support and services. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 7. Needs expanded cultural awareness. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 8. Would benefit from supplemental career guidance and information. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 9. Has good attendance, punctuality, and record. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 10. Completes work and assignments in a timely manner. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 11. Will be successful in college endeavors. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 12. Communicates openly with school staff. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |

Additional comments _____

Signature

Date

This is an important part of the student's application for Upward Bound. Please return this recommendation form to Upward Bound staff at your respective high school.

Student:

I hereby waive all rights to see this recommendation form when completed.

Student Signature

Date

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Teacher Recommendation for Student Participation in UTRGV Upward Bound

Student _____ School _____

Teacher _____ Subject _____

Length of time you have known this student _____

Upward Bound is a program designed to generate knowledge, skills, and motivation for success in postsecondary school. Participants should have the ability to succeed in postsecondary school even though they may not now be demonstrating all of the characteristics of successful students. Please rate this student by checking the appropriate response to these statements.

5- Strongly agree

4- Agree

3- Neither agree/disagree

2- Disagree

1- Strongly disagree

- | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Expresses interest in academic endeavors. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 2. Demonstrates responsible behavior. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 3. Relates well to peers. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 4. Cooperates with school staff. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 5. Is dependable and reliable. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 6. Would benefit from supplemental academic support and services. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 7. Needs expanded cultural awareness. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 8. Would benefit from supplemental career guidance and information. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 9. Has good attendance, punctuality, and record. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 10. Completes work and assignments in a timely manner. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 11. Will be successful in college endeavors. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 12. Communicates openly with school staff. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |

Additional comments _____

Signature

Date

This is an important part of the student's application for Upward Bound. Please return this recommendation form to Upward Bound staff at your respective high school.

Student:

I hereby waive all rights to see this recommendation form when completed.

Student Signature

Date

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Counselor Recommendation for Student Participation in UTRGV Upward Bound

Student _____ School _____

Counselor _____ Subject _____

Length of time you have known this student _____

Upward Bound is a program designed to generate knowledge, skills, and motivation for success in postsecondary school. Participants should have the ability to succeed in postsecondary school even though they may not now be demonstrating all of the characteristics of successful students. Please rate this student by checking the appropriate response to these statements.

5- Strongly agree

4- Agree

3- Neither agree/disagree

2- Disagree

1- Strongly disagree

- | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Expresses interest in academic endeavors. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 2. Demonstrates responsible behavior. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 3. Relates well to peers. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 4. Cooperates with school staff. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 5. Is dependable and reliable. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 6. Would benefit from supplemental academic support and services. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 7. Needs expanded cultural awareness. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 8. Would benefit from supplemental career guidance and information. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 9. Has good attendance, punctuality, and record. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 10. Completes work and assignments in a timely manner. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 11. Will be successful in college endeavors. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| 12. Communicates openly with school staff. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |

Additional comments _____

Signature

Date

This is an important part of the student's application for Upward Bound. Please return this recommendation form to Upward Bound staff at your respective high school.

Student:

I hereby waive all rights to see this recommendation form when completed.

Student Signature

Date

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