

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

## **How much does the program cost?**

All services and costs for the program are provided 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.

## **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 some students struggle in some 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. We are required to document low-income status for the US Department of Education. 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 their family meets income guidelines. Income guidelines are based on the family's “taxable income”, not “gross” income. Two-thirds of our students must meet both income guidelines and first generation guidelines according to federal regulations. A link to the income guidelines can be found on the UB webpage.

## **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.)

## **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.

**If you have additional questions, contact (573)518-2212.**