

UPWARD BOUND MATH SCIENCE PROGRAM

o. (201) 684-7851 | f. (201) 684-7717 ramapo.edu/tas/upward-bound

October 1, 2024

Dear Applicant and Family,

You have expressed interest in the Upward Bound Math Science Program at Ramapo College of New Jersey (UBMS). This program is funded by a federal TRIO grant through the United States Department of Education. The Ramapo College Upward Bound Math Science program gives support to secondary school students (grades 10 through 12) with college potential, in the Paterson grant target schools of Eastside High School, John F. Kennedy High School, STEAM High School and Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology. It is our goal to help them successfully complete high school with the foundation and skills necessary to pursue post-secondary education in the areas of science, math and technology. While not specifically a target school, students from PCTI may apply.

Ramapo College Upward Bound Math Science is funded to admit approximately twenty (20) new students each year. The Ramapo College UBMS program is 96% federally funded by the U.S. Department of Education at a total annual amount of \$313,568 for 61 students served for the upcoming funding year. Participants are selected based on their school record, teacher recommendations, interviews, and eligibility according to federal guidelines.

Participation

Academic Year: September – June

- Students remain actively involved in program from admission to graduation (sophomore—senior year) and are expected to attend all parts during the school year, in addition to the summer.
 - Weekly tutoring at schools: one day/week, one hour after school with high school teachers
 - Six full day Saturday sessions at the Ramapo College Campus with college professors
 - 2-3 day overnight college tour in November

Summer Residential Program

- 6 week mandatory summer residency program at the end of school in June early August
- academic program designed to help students prepare for the upcoming school year
- students dropped off at Ramapo College Sunday evening and picked up Friday by 5:00pm

Eligibility

Student applicant MUST:

- 1. Attend one of the target Paterson high schools, or reside in Paterson, depending on availability
- 2. Provide proof of U.S. citizenship or permanent residency, current and not expired
- 3. Provide a copy of his/her social security card
- **4.** Be eligible under <u>at least one</u> of the following criteria:
 - neither parent with a Bachelor's Degree, or
 - family income not more than 150% of the federally determined poverty level.

Please note that, as a government program, we are required to obtain personal information such as copies of birth certificates, legal immigrant status cards, social security cards and tax returns. This information is used solely to verify eligibility and is maintained in a confidential file.



Costs and Funding

- Program is **FREE** to selected students
- Fully funded by federal grant NO out of pocket cost to student/student's family except for misc. spending money
- grant covers all necessary supplies, books, transportation and lunch for Saturday sessions, and summer room and board; family provides summer residency transportation

Included with this letter is an application to participate in both the academic and summer programs for the duration of your high school years; you do not have to fill out a new application each year. Please read through **ALL** the application material carefully, and direct any questions or concerns to the UBMS staff.

NOTE: *Students observing* <u>Ramadan</u>: In years that Ramadan overlaps the summer program, special meal time considerations are granted to observant Muslim students.

Thank you for your interest in the Upward Bound Math Science program at Ramapo College. We look forward to learning more about your academic goals and aspirations.

Sincerely,

Sandra Suarez, Ph.D.

Director

e-mail: ssuarez@ramapo.edu telephone: (201) 684-7774

Brigid Nonas Assistant Director

Email: bnonas@ramapo.edu
Telephone: 201-923-1723

Some words about the program from current and former students....

Ramapo Upward Bound Math & Science is where I can gain more experience with college life, thus I AM GRATEFUL TO BE A PART OF THIS PROGRAM. There are many other Upward Bound programs, but if I'm talking specifically about the Ramapo, this is the best program to be a part of because it helps me through the academic year, including every Wednesday SAT prep class, the first Saturday of each month I get to do lab work, explore colleges during the November college trip, and last but not least everything we need help with academically or socially we get it from Ramapo UBMS! Ramapo Upward Bound has helped me with many things that I can't completely convey in words, but if I had to sum it up in one phrase, it would be "how to succeed in school and college life." I've learned from UBMS that as long as we give it our all, we can do anything! The Ramapo UBMS is wonderful in every way. Classes, summer evening activities, the trips on Fridays, and the college trip in November! Spending time with them is enjoyable because everyone in the program is lovely. In conclusion, time management, self-advocacy, and the value of communication are the most significant lessons I have gained from the UBMS from my sophomore year to the present. With these abilities and knowledge, I can succeed in any aspect of my life! Being a student in the Ramapo Upward Bound Math and Science program makes me extremely happy and proud of who I am.

-Mohammed Arham, John F. Kennedy High School, class of 2024

During my first year of college I've participated in different community services through this past semester. I've also attended different workshops about career opportunities paths and other skills. I have been having a really good time here in college. And, I couldn't be here without UBMS and I'm very thankful.

Piero, John F. Kennedy High School, class of 2022, Psychology major at Stockton University

Upward Bound was one of the greatest opportunities I was able to experience in my high school years. I have grown and learned so much knowledge about college life but also myself. Honestly, this program is what made my high school experience more memorable to look back on. If I could go back to being an rising sophomore again I would, just to experience everything over again. Some may think the work is a lot but it's not, everyone that helped with the program were willing to assist if needed, which is one thing that helped a lot. One thing I would say is cherish this moment as a high school student doing this program.

Kaylah, Panther Academy, class of 2022, Photography major at Ramapo College

Being part of the Upward Bound of Ramapo College helped me a lot. I am grateful to the program because it gave me the opportunity to expand my knowledge based on the classes I took in the summer. The program specifically helped me improve my English in the sense of speaking it with other people and losing my fear. Some memorable activities for me were when we visited the universities, because it helped me to know more about all the things that I might need. Also, the evening activities allowed me to meet new people from different schools. Some important lessons I learned were to always check your emails, creating a schedule will help you organize a lot and a phrase that Ms. Nonas sent me once and stayed in my mind: "Early is on time, on time is late, and late is unacceptable."

Flavia, John F. Kennedy High School, class of 2023, Architecture major at Marywood University

Upward Bound is one of the best opportunities I've gotten to experience! This program has helped me understand and learn the material that I will have for my next school year. I've done better than ever on my state tests and have excelled in my academics. Upward Bound not only prioritizes our learning but also our mental health. This program gives us time to wind down from learning and just have fun. This program is strict but it is helpful, and they will tell you when it's time to have fun and when it's time to be serious.

Geraldine, Paterson Charter School for Science & Technology, class of 2025

Upward Bound, in my opinion, is about assisting ambitious students in accomplishing their goals. When I first joined Upward Bound, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life after high school. Now, I am leaving for NJIT in the fall to study chemistry in hopes of one day contributing to cancer research. My time at Upward Bound has been absolutely incredible. I have developed close relationships with other students who share my interests and have benefited from the mentoring of Dr. Suarez, Mrs. Nonas, and other teachers. I particularly like the summer program because I could actually picture myself in college. It helped me realize the potential I have for the future. This program offers a lot of fantastic opportunities and hope for students.

Gisselle, Passaic County Technical Institute, class of 2023, Chemistry major at NJIT

I am very grateful to have found a program like Upward Bound. I entered Upward Bound in my junior year of high school, and it was one of the best decisions I've made. Thanks to Upward Bound, I was able to learn how beautiful and interesting physics can be, and I was also able to learn more about some stories of the Greek gods in our Latin class. Although, for me, the most amazing thing about UBMS is that they not only taught us academic things but also provided us with activities to help us socialize with our peers and counselors; one of my favorite activities was when we went fishing; without a doubt, that is a memory that will always remain in my heart. I am sure that Upward Bound summers are what I am going to miss the most from my high school experience.

Suleimy, John F. Kennedy High School, class of 2023, Biology major at St. Peter's University

There are no words to describe how grateful I am for having had the fabulous opportunity to be part of the Upward Bound program. Being part of the Ramapo College Upward Bound helped me to explore and grow critical skills. Being a part of the program offered me the chance to broaden my knowledge based on the lessons I did during the summer, for which I am grateful. My writing in English has specifically improved as a result of the curriculum. Some memorable activities for me like the evening activities allowed me to meet new people from different backgrounds and have the opportunity to know them. Some important lessons I learned were to always check your emails, manage your time wisely and don't be afraid to discover new things.

Jared, John F. Kennedy High School, class of 2023, Engineering major at Rutgers University

One of my best life decisions was joining Upward Bound three years ago. I've benefited both academically and socially. Ramapo helped me with science, which is the subject I struggle with the most, and also taught me how to speak up for myself throughout the academic year. Along with assisting me with my studies, Ramapo has introduced me to many new friends and taken me on numerous adventures, including ice skating and a glass-making workshop. Without Ramapo, I would not have acquired the skills necessary to advocate for myself while getting the support I needed during the school year.

Amelia, STEAM High School, class of 2024

Ramapo College Upward Bound Math Science Program

Once your <u>completed</u> application is received and evaluated, qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule an on-campus interview. THIS IS YOUR APPLICATION CHECKLIST DO NOT return checklist with application.

Check list My application is complete (all 4 pages) – late and/or incomplete applications may not be reviewed
I have signed the application
My parents have signed the application
I have included verification of my income,
☐ A copy of my family's 2023 tax return. Page 1 & 2 — see examples for reference (based on last year's income) and it is <i>signed by my parent</i> . NOTE: W-2 forms are NOT ACCEPTABLE.
We did not file a tax return, so have provided other documentation as proof of income (<i>eg. S</i> igned form in packet stating your income for the last year and where it came from).
I have included a copy of my Citizenship or permanent residency documentation. Acceptable forms of documentation are:
A. Birth certificate from the United States or Puerto Rico
B. <u>United States</u> passport, or
C. Permanent Resident Card / Green Card
I have included a copy of my social security card.
\square I have given the recommendation form to two of my teachers (preferably math and/or science).
I have asked my guidance counselor for my report card/school transcript.
\square I have completed the section asking about my parent's education.

Please complete the application and email it to Mrs. Nonas, bnonas@ramapo.edu

or

Hand the completed application to these guidance counselors:

Eastside – Ms. Patby
J.F.K. – Mr. Funiciello
STEAM - Ms. Wright
PCSST – Ms. Johnson or Ms. Stephenson

or

mail it to:

Ramapo College of New Jersey Upward Bound Math Science 505 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, NJ 07430

Please return your application as soon as possible.

Interviews will be held virtually via Google Meet once we have your application. A calendar link will be emailed to you. Please choose a time that is available for both the student AND the parent/guardian. Both need to be present for the interview.

COMPLETED student applications will be evaluated by the Upward Bound Director and Program Assistant Director and a determination made regarding whether or not an interview will be offered.

SAMPLE PAGE - do not return with application

PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Birth Certificate

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supplemental report 190_	Flied Sep 12 #190	I John a	Arres Jam REGISTRAN
REGISTRAR.	Address	Mim	

OR Permament Residence Card (Must be Current, not expired)



Or copy of US PASSPORT

Please include a copy of your Social Security Card



Please return copies of your MOST RECENT Tax Return, pages 1-2. Page Two must be signed by a parent/guardian. Page One must have applicant listed as a Dependent. See below for reference.

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* Student's name must be listed here. If not on your tax return, we need the tax return where the applicant is listed as dependent.

Form 1040 (202	2)								Page 2
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Tax return MUST be signed by a PARENT. Please only send copies that are signed.

Form 1040 (2022)

Contact Information: (please print clearly)

First Name: N	1.I.: Last Name	:		Gender: (Circle)	Male Female
_ Home Address: Street		Apt #	Paterson City/Town	NJ	Zip code
Home Phone Number:	Ap	plicant Cell #:	••		•
Applicant Email Address:					
Mother/Legal Guardian:					
Mother/Legal Guardian Work #:	Fat	:her/Legal Guardian W	/ork#:		
Mother/Legal Guardian Cell #:	Fa	ther/Legal Guardian C	Cell #:		
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Citizenship Eligibility (Include a copy of your l US Citizen_ Permanent Resident Residen		·		urity card) ust be current)	_
Date of Birth// Social Securi	ty#				
Country you were born in:	Prim	ary Language spoke	en at home:		
If you were not born in the United States, when di	id you emigrate?				
Income Eligibility (The government requires a	copy of your 2023 inc	come tax return)			
How many people live in your home (in addition to	o you)?				
What was the approximate total family income for	r 2023 ?				
Are you eligible for free lunch? (Circle) Yes	No				
First Generation Eligibility					
Mother: The highest level of education that my Mother If your mother/guardian earned a college degree, place of University	ease indicate the level:	□ Associate □ B	Baccalaureate	niversity	
Father: The highest level of education that my Father	r or legal guardian compl	eted was: ☐ High	n school 🗆 Uni	versity Neith	er
If your father/guardian earned a college degree, plea	ase indicate the level:	□ Associate □ B	Saccalaureate 🗆	Masters Doc	torate
Name of University		State/Country			
Verification of Information					
certify that all of the information provided in this	application is true.				
Applicant Signature	 Date	Parent/Guard	dian Signature		 Date

PAGE	2
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		I AGE 2
Applicant's Name:	School/Academy	

Educational Information	:	* Fill in this section t	with the help of your guidand	e counselor
High School/ Academy you attend:				
Current Grade:	Expected Year of H	High School Graduation:	Current GPA:	
STATE testing Scores (if Available): Na	me of Test:	Date Taken:		
Math Score: Language Ar	ts/English Score:	Other:		
Guidance Counselor's name:		Guidance Cou	nselor's phone number:	
Guidance counselor's email:				
Information Release:				
I hereby give my consent that, upor to the Ramapo College Upward Bou secondary institutions attended aft	und Math Science I			
Applicant's Signature	Date	Parent/G	uardian Signature	Date
		Parents/G	Guardian <i>printed</i> name	
References:				
Please list the two people you are a	asking to fill out the	e recommendation form.		
I asked Mr./Miss/Mrs./Ms.:		to fill	out one recommendation form.	
This is my: Science Teacher [☐ Math Teacher	☐ Guidance Counselor	☐ Other	
I asked Mr./Miss/Mrs./Ms.:		to fill	out the other recommendation	form.
This is my: Science Teacher	☐ Math Teacher	☐ Guidance Counselor	☐ Other	

Applicant's Name:	School/Academy

Household Declaration of Income

The following people, including applicant, resided in my household:

Name	Age	Relationship to Applicant
1		Upward Bound Applicant (self)
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
Our total income for 2023 was: \$		
Our income was obtained from the following sources:		
☐ Salary from working		
☐ Social Security		
☐ Disability		
☐ Child support		
Other		
		
		
cortif	v that this infor	mation is correct.
Parent/Guardian Name (Print)	y that this infor	mation is correct.
()		
Parent/Guardian Signature		Date

P	Α	G	E	4

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Applicant's Name:	School/Academy	

Please answer the following questions in clear and complete sentences. Additional sheets may be used, if necessary.

,
1. What is your favorite subject in school? Please explain why.
2. In your opinion, what is your greatest weakness and greatest strength (Could be academic, social, personal, etc.)? Explain.
3. What extracurricular activities/sports/jobs do you participate in?
4. What are your post high school graduation plans?
The strict are your post ingli scriool graduation plans.
5. What careers are you thinking about? If you are not considering a math or science related field, why are you interested in participating in the Upward Bound Math Science program?

Ramapo College Upward Bound Math Science Program

Recommendation Form #1

(give this form to your teacher or counselor)

Reference's Name:					
What is your current position? $\ \Box$	Math Teacher	☐ Science Teac	her 🗌 Guidand	ce Counselor	Other
udent Name: School/Academy:					
low long have you known this stude	nt and in what c	apacity?			
Not at all familiar: I have o Somewhat: I have recomm Very familiar – I understan	nly heard of it by ended students d the commitme	y name for it before and I ent students are e	know it is an acac expected to make f	or three years.	hey do the work? Explain
Why do you recommend this student	to participate in	n this program?			
Please rate this student regarding the					
Sense of responsibility Level of academic	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge
motivation	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge
Level of Maturity	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge
Cooperation with authority	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge
Leadership abilities	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge
Class attendance	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge
General classroom behavior	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge
Do you have any other comments to	make that woul	d aid in our decision	on about this stud	lent?	
	ned:				date:

Ramapo College Upward Bound Math Science Program

Recommendation Form #2

(give this form to your teacher or counselor)

	eference's Name:					
What is your current position?	☐ Math Teacher	☐ Science Tea	cher \square Guidanc	e Counselor	Other	
Student Name:	cudent Name: School/Academy:					
How long have you known this st	tudent and in what c	apacity?				
How familiar are you with the Ra Not at all familiar: I ha Somewhat: I have reco Very familiar – I under	ove only heard of it by commended students estand the commitme	y name for it before and ent students are (I know it is an acac expected to make f	or three years.	hey do the work? Explain.	
/hy do you recommend this stu	dent to participate in	n this program?				
lease rate this student regardin Sense of responsibilit		acteristics:	Average	Poor	No ability to judge	
Level of academic	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge	
motivation Level of Maturity	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge	
Cooperation with	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge	
Leadership abilities	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge	
Class attendance	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge	
General classroom	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	No ability to judge	
behavior						