PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
WHAT IS UPWARD BOUND AT MARIST COLLEGE?

Upward Bound is a national, federally-funded college preparatory program designed to generate in participants the skills and motivation necessary to persist in completing their secondary education and enter and complete a program of postsecondary education. The program at Marist College has successfully met this challenge since 1966. Currently our funding for 2012-2017 is $657,533.00 per year for 147 students.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

- Students in the ninth, tenth and eleventh grade who attend Poughkeepsie High School or Newburgh Free District;
- Students whose families meet U.S. Department of Education income guidelines and/or
- Students whose parents have not received a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in the United States and/or;
- Students who are academically at risk of failing high school, and therefore have a need for academic support in order to pursue a program of postsecondary education;
- Candidates should be interested in entering a post-secondary educational program after completing high school;
- Candidates must be willing to make a commitment to remain active with the program through college graduation;
- Candidates must have college academic potential.

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY UPWARD BOUND?

All services offered are designed to increase academic achievement, and to assist students in developing a sense of self-reliance and independence. These services are provided year-round through the program’s summer and academic year components.

During the summer, a residential program is held at Marist College’s main campus. The summer program offers students a chance to experience college living and to prepare themselves for the adjustment from high school to college. Students are expected to attend academic classes and to participate in study groups, sports, lectures, and career planning classes. Classes offered are designed to strengthen skills and to introduce new material in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and foreign language starting from ninth grade through college course level. Services offered to the students include personal counseling, recreational activities, and trips to colleges and historic sites.

During the school year, Upward Bound provides workshops that emphasize study skills, academic planning, career exploration, and assistance with college admission and the application processes. The program also offers tutorial services, as well as a variety of cultural, social and career-oriented trip activities.
HOW ARE STUDENTS SELECTED?

After reviewing completed application packets, the Marist College Upward Bound Admissions Committee will invite those students who most closely match the requirements of the program, along with their parents or guardians for an interview. Admission decisions are based on a student's potential to achieve academic success, demonstrate a desire to participate in the program, and have the motivation to achieve his or her educational goals. To help with this assessment, the following documents are reviewed:

- 6th, 7th and 8th grade standardized test scores in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics
- School transcript, reflecting grade reports for at least the three previous school years
- Most recent (current) report card
- Two recommendations (provided by teachers, guidance counselors or administrators)
- Disciplinary Action Form.

Candidates who meet all eligibility guidelines will be ranked according to recruitment specifications mandated by the U.S. Department of Education and by their overall potential, desire and motivation most closely match the requirement of income and one of the other eligibility criteria of Upward Bound. (The federal guidelines mandate that at least two-thirds of Upward Bound’s enrollees meet two of the eligibility criteria.) Students may be accepted into the program or wait-listed depending on the number of available slots and number of candidates interviewed. Wait-listed students will be notified in rank order in the event of an opening.

HOW DO YOU GET MORE INFORMATION?

To request an application, or for more information about the program, please contact the staff at Marist Upward Bound.

By phone: You can reach us by phone at (845) 575-3258. Our office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

By mail: You can write to us at: Marist Upward Bound 3399 North Road Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1387

In person: Our office is located on campus in the St. Peter's building. Because St. Peter’s is not handicapped accessible, please let us know of any special requests in advance and we will accommodate your particular needs.

Online: You can visit our website at www.marist.edu/upwardbound/ and download our application packet.

UPWARD BOUND IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM