



Upward Bound Parent Meeting

January 26, 2015



Saturday Session

December 13, 2014



Saturday Session- January 10, 2015



Upcoming Calendar Events



| FEBRUARY 2015 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

- 7 ACT
- 14 Saturday Session
FAFSA Workshop
and Lab → For **SENIORS**
& parents
- 16 College Visit:
Potomac State College
Open House
7:00 – 3:00pm

Students are required to sign-up for all college visits at least two weeks ahead of time. All students will register online at www.hagerstowncc.edu/upwardbound



| MARCH 2015 | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

- 7 College Visit:
Frostburg State Univ.
Open House 8:00-3:00pm
- 14 Saturday Session (SAT)
ACCUPLACER Test
- 23 Parent Meeting,
BSH - 114
- 30-31 Spring Break
(no school)



Updates to TRiO UB Webpage

Current Upward Bound Students

- ***Saturday Sessions***: Breakdown of each session for students and parents to review when absent
- ***College Visit Registration***: For **ALL** future college visits and field trips, students must register through the UB website 2 weeks prior
- <http://www.hagerstowncc.edu/upwardbound/current-upward-bound-students>

Upcoming Calendar Events



Incentive Trips

2/28: TRiO Day (7:00 – 3:00 pm)

**The top student of each grade level. Students will need their own transportation to and from HCC.

Tentative Trip

3/29: March for College Fair & Wizards Game

*** For top 20 juniors and sophomores, student will need their own transportation to and from HCC.*

| Incentive Point(s) Values | Upward Bound Activity | Time Commitment | Frequency of Assessment |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4 | Saturday Session | 4 Hours | Once per month |
| 1 | Tutoring Session: Full attendance & participation | 1 Hour | Twice per week |
| .5 | Tutoring Session: Sign in, but no participation | | Twice per week |
| 1 | Eprep: (time spent reviewing) | 1 Hour = 1 Point | Varies |
| 2 | Eprep: (Complete ALL sections of a PSAT practice exam and record/save your answers | 2 Hours | Twice per year |
| 3 | Eprep: (Complete ALL sections of a SAT/ACT practice exam and record/save your answers | 3 Hours | At least twice per year |
| 20 | Distinguished Honor Roll | Each marking period | Four times per year |
| 10 | Honor Roll | | |
| 5 | College Visits & Field Trips | 6+ Hours | 6 – 8 times per year |
| 0 | Community Service Activities | Varies | Volunteering is a reward in itself |
| 1 | Parent Meetings (earn for parent attendance) | 1 Hour | 5 times per year |
| 1 – 5 | Going above and beyond (consult with UB staff) | Varies | Varies |



Program Objectives

- Participants served during the project year will have a **2.5 cumulative GPA or better**
- UB seniors served during the project year will have achieved at the **proficient level on state assessments** in reading/language arts and math.
- Project participants served during the project year will **continue in school for the next academic year**, at the next grade level, or will graduate.
- Current and prior UB participants will complete **a rigorous secondary school program of study**.
- UB graduates will **enroll in a program of postsecondary education by the fall term immediately following high school graduation** (exception: spring deferment).
- Participants will **attain either an associate's or bachelor's degree within six years following graduation** from high school.



Progress of Program Objectives

| Program Objectives | Project Year 1 | Project Year 2 |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| GPA \geq 2.5 | 84% | 86% |
| Proficient on State Assessments | 100% | 100% |
| Secondary School Retention and Graduation | 99% | 97% |
| UMC – Rigorous program of study | 91% | 100% |
| Postsecondary Enrollment | 91% (10/11 graduates) | 71% (10/13 graduates) |



Review of Program Objectives

Participants will **attain either an associate's or bachelor's degree within six years following graduation** from high school.

Upward Bound Objective for 2019 = 76%

Nationwide (for 2012 college graduates) = 56%

Accuplacer Exam Preparation

- Accuplacer Placement Test will be administered to all UB students on March 14, 2015
- Test covers math, reading, and writing skills
- Scores will determine student placement in Summer Academy courses





What is ACCUPLACER?

ACCUPLACER is a suite of tests that determines your knowledge in math, reading and writing as you prepare to enroll in college-level courses. ACCUPLACER is used to identify your strengths and weaknesses in each subject area and to help you improve your skills through [interactive online learning tools](#). The results of the assessment, in conjunction with your academic background, goals and interests, are used by academic advisors and counselors to place you in the appropriate college courses that meet your skill level.

How Does ACCUPLACER Work?

ACCUPLACER test questions are based on your responses to previous questions. Questions will either increase or decrease in difficulty depending on how you respond. ACCUPLACER tests are untimed; however, it is important to allow yourself enough time to complete the test since test results are a key factor in determining the course(s) you can enroll in. ACCUPLACER test results are available immediately following your test. Before you take ACCUPLACER, make sure to ask your academic advisor about your institution's testing policies and procedures.

[Learn more about the ACCUPLACER tests](#)

How to Prepare for ACCUPLACER

ACCUPLACER offers several learning tools that help you improve in areas where your academic performance is not the

Resources

Review basic concepts in mathematics, reading and writing before taking [ACCUPLACER tests](#).

 [Free Sample Questions](#)

 [ACCUPLACER®// MyFoundationsLab® Brochure](#)

 [iPhone App Flyer](#)



What is the Accuplacer?

- A college placement exam that determines a student's knowledge in math, reading, and writing
- Adaptive Test: increases/decreases in difficulty depending on how the student responds
- Test is untimed
- Goal: place into courses that are MAT 101 and ENG 101 or higher (these courses count toward college degrees)



How should your child prepare for the Accuplacer?

- Apps start at \$2.99 for iPhone
- Web-based tutorials: links on HCC's website <http://www.hagerstowncc.edu/academic-testing-center/web-based-tutorials>
- Students should be completing review packets and studying test-taking strategies
- Upward Bound gave new students printed copies of the sample questions to the right. Coaches have extra copies for students that want them.
- Practice app on Upward Bound iPads for use during tutoring.



VALENTINE'S DAY BASKET RAFFLE
HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
TRIO UPWARD BOUND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- Drawing will be held during the Saturday Session on February 14th
- Basket will be hand delivered to the winner
- All proceeds benefit the Upward Bound Scholarship Fund



1 ticket for \$3.00

2 tickets for \$5.00

4 tickets for \$10.00

(if paying by check, make payable to
Hagerstown Community College UB)

Men's Basket Must Haves:

- Stafford tie (with gift receipt)
- Dockers 8-piece grooming set
- Dark chocolate covered gingerbread hearts

Women's Basket Must Haves:

- 'Sensitive Ears' Heart-Shaped Earring and Necklace Set
- Nirvana Spa Shea Butter set
- Chocolate truffles
- Glitter chocolate box



Contact Danielle with Questions: 301.991.9576

UB Fundraising

Christmas basket raffle
raised almost \$400

Currently working on
finding "sponsors" in
the community

Local Scholarship/Grant Information



- Available on WCPS college readiness website
- Go to MHEC website
 - Rawlings grants:
 - Education Assistance Grant
 - Guaranteed Access Grant
- Senate scholarship
 - Hancock & WHS – 301.722.4780
 - North & South – 301.733.5540
- Delegate scholarship
 - Call 240.313.2050
- Specific TRiO scholarships (MECEO)
- College specific scholarships

Financial Aid for UB Students

THE **BLOG**

Featuring fresh takes and real-time analysis from
HuffPost's signature lineup of contributors

Tavis Smiley
Michael Spence



Alexandra Rice

Content Strategist, NerdScholar

GET UPDATES FROM ALEXANDRA RICE



6 Financial Aid Tips for First- Generation Students

Posted: 01/24/2014 1:53 pm



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[College News](#)



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1. Don't pay money for the FAFSA.

The first "F" in FAFSA stands for "free," so never pay to fill out the form. It's not even necessary to pay for help completing the form given that there are so many free resources for students. Check with your high school, prospective college or search online for websites that help guide students through the process. Many schools put on dedicated events, such as College Goal Sunday, where students can get on-site help completing the form. Don't trust websites that charge fees for the application -- all students can complete it for free on www.fafsa.gov.

Do you have a unique family situation? See steps for filling out the FAFSA for any family circumstance [here](#).

2. Make a list of all deadlines.

Acting early is good life advice, but it's especially true when it comes to applying for college and getting financial aid. Waiting too long to fill out the FAFSA is one of the biggest mistakes that first-generation students make, says Robert Kelchen, a Seton Hall University professor. While the federal deadline for completing the form isn't until June 30, states and colleges have their own deadlines that students need to comply with to be eligible for all types of aid. In many cases, it's first come, first served, so you want to be sure to submit your FAFSA as soon as possible.

Check the individual deadlines for your state of residence [here](#).

3. Stay organized.

Students must fill out the FAFSA for each year that they attend college to receive aid. Keeping copies of all documents and forms of communication will help to streamline the process later on, Felicia Bryant, director of financial aid for Camden County College in New Jersey, says. Having copies of all tax documents will come in handy if you don't receive a copy of your federal income tax returns -- which you need along with your W-2s to fill out the FAFSA -- in January. If you have your tax return information from the previous year, you can use that to estimate your financial information, and then update the form online once you receive your current tax returns and W-2s.



4. Don't let the sticker price intimidate you.

First-generation students often pay less than the advertised price because they are generally eligible for financial aid. So don't cross a school off your list solely based on price. Laura Perna, a professor of education from the University of Pennsylvania, recommends using a [Net Price Calculator](#) to get a more accurate estimate of what you'll pay after accounting for scholarships and grants. When considering cost, use the totals you get from the Net Price Calculators to compare schools instead of the sticker price advertised by the colleges.

5. Account for all costs -- not just tuition.

Tuition will be the biggest expense when it comes to paying for college, but be aware that the other costs will add up too. Activity fees, textbooks, room and board, meal plans and trips home for out-of-state students are just a few of the expenses students are likely to incur while in college. Create a realistic budget for these costs and stick to it to avoid any unpleasant financial binds down the road.

6. Don't discount loans.

Not all debt is bad. While loans may not be the ideal way to finance college, as they eventually have to be paid back, they are sometimes the best option. Sometimes it's "better to borrow money from the federal government at reasonable rates than to work too many hours while in college," Kelchen of Seton Hall says. Keep in mind that federal loans usually have lower interest rates and better borrower protections than private loans, so they should be your first choice if you decide to take out loans.

What will you need to fill out the FAFSA?

- Your Social Security Number
- Your Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)
- Your most recent federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned.
- A Federal Student Aid PIN to sign electronically.



FAFSA terms:

- *Financial need* determined by Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and cost of attendance (COA)
- EFC comes from what you report on FAFSA:
 - ✦ FREE Application for Federal Student Aid
 - ✦ www.fafsa.gov
- COA is tuition, fees, room and board, transportation, etc.

$$\mathbf{COA - EFC = \textit{financial need}}$$

*****Submit the FAFSA regardless of financial need*****

Frequent FAFSA errors

- Social security numbers
- Divorced/remarried parental information
- Information not reported or reported on a federal income tax return
- Household size
- Number of household members in college



Comments & Questions

