Scholar Application

2025-2026
REND LAKE COLLEGE

TRiO

UPWARD BOUND

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any high school student who is enrolled in the 9th-11th grade at Benton, Hamilton County, Zeigler-Royalton or Mt. Vernon high school.

Students qualify for enrollment by:

- Demonstrating the academic potential and desire to complete a college degree.
- Exhibiting enthusiasm toward learning.
- Being a first generation college student (neither parent having a bachelor degree)
- Meeting guidelines established by the U.S Department of Education.
- Being willing to commit to weekly tutoring, monthly Saturday activities, and a 6 week Summer program.

WHAT CAN UPWARD BOUND DO FOR ME?

The ***Academic Year*** component emphasizes academic achievement and goal setting. It includes:

- Tutoring sessions at the student's target high school.
- Saturday College held once a month at Rend Lake College's campus which include sessions on career planning, study skills, wellness, test prep, etc.
- Field trips to educational and cultural destinations which include college visits, museums, and theatrical performances.

The ***Summer Program*** is the most intensive aspect of the UB year. This includes:

- Five weeks of classes at RLC campus in Math, English, Foreign Language, Science and an elective.
- The opportunity and tuition for up to two RLC full credit classes.
- Paid UB Career Internships for eligible students.
- End of the year trip to major cities which include campus tours, cultural activities and sites, historical tours, etc.

All activities are provided at <u>NO COST</u> to the student!

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Dara Whaley
TRiO Director
437-5321 ext.1326
whaleyd@rlc.edu

Beth Hoffman
Lead Advisor
437-5321 ext.1219
hoffmanb@rlc.edu

Emily Minor
Student Advisor
437-5321 ext.1365
kovarike@rlc.edu

Rainey Williams
Program Specialist
437-5321 Ext. 1265
williamss@rlc.edu

Upward Bound - Rend Lake College
Participant Application

School Currently Attending: _____

Current Academic Year: _____ **Current Grade Level (circle one):** 9 10 11

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name (first, middle, last):_____

Mailing Address (Street, City, State, Zip):_____

Home Phone:_____ **Cell Phone:**_____

Email Address:_____

Birth date:_____ **Race**:_____ **Gender (Circle one)**: Male Female

Citizen of the United States? Yes_____ If No, explain:_____

Do you currently have an IEP (Individualized Education Plan) or a 504?_____

PARENT INFORMATION

In order to fulfill the United States Government's regulations concerning income disclosure and first-generation eligibility for participation in our program, it is necessary to complete the following:

Birth or Adoptive Mother:_____ **Bachelor's degree (4-year) (Circle One)**: Yes No

Address (Street, City, State, Zip):_____

Email Address:_____ **Cell Phone:**_____

Birth or Adoptive Father:_____ **Bachelor's degree (4-year) (Circle One):** Yes No

Address (Street, City, State, Zip):_____

Email Address:_____ **Cell Phone:**_____

Name of Adult with Whom Student Lives: _____

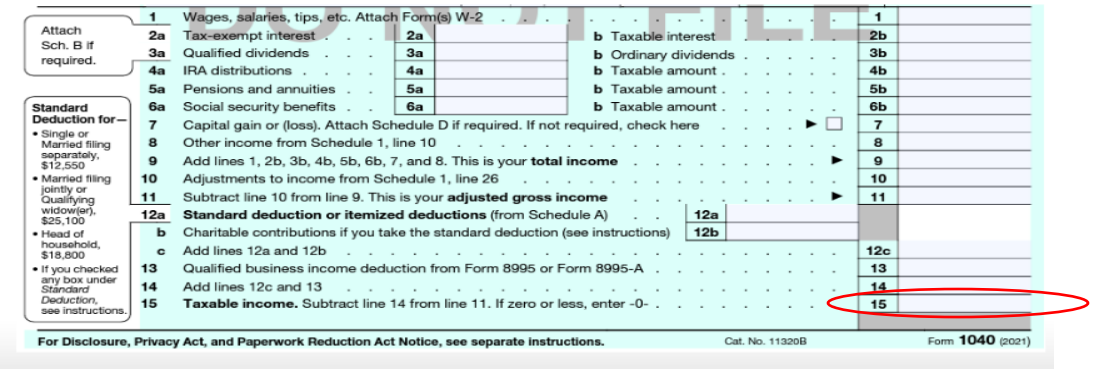
Relationship_____**Cell Phone**:_____

Does student have contact with non-custodial parent _____**Yes** ____ **No** ____ **N/A**

Please circle the number of Family Members in your household: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 above

Please circle the TAXABLE INCOME from 2023 federal tax form 1040 line 15 (<u>NOT GROSS INCOME</u>):

Less than $23,940
$23,940 - $32,459
$32,460 - $40,979
$40,980 - $49,499
$49,500 - $58,019
$58,020 - $66,539
$66,540 - $75,059
$75,060 - $83,579
$83,580 – above



Attach Sch. B if required.	1	Wages, salaries, tips, etc. Attach Form(s) W-2			1
	2a	Tax-exempt interest	2a	b Taxable interest	2b
	3a	Qualified dividends	3a	b Ordinary dividends	3b
	4a	IRA distributions	4a	b Taxable amount	4b
	5a	Pensions and annuities	5a	b Taxable amount	5b
	6a	Social security benefits	6a	b Taxable amount	6b
Standard Deduction for— • Single or Married filing separately, $12,550 • Married filing jointly or Qualifying widow(er), $25,100 • Head of household, $18,800 • If you checked any box under *Standard Deduction*, see instructions.	7	Capital gain or (loss). Attach Schedule D if required. If not required, check here ▶ ☐			7
	8	Other income from Schedule 1, line 10			8
	9	Add lines 1, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 7, and 8. This is your **total income** ▶			9
	10	Adjustments to income from Schedule 1, line 26			10
	11	Subtract line 10 from line 9. This is your **adjusted gross income** ▶			11
	12a	**Standard deduction or itemized deductions** (from Schedule A)	12a		
	b	Charitable contributions if you take the standard deduction (see instructions)	12b		
	c	Add lines 12a and 12b			12c
	13	Qualified business income deduction from Form 8995 or Form 8995-A			13
	14	Add lines 12c and 13			14
	15	**Taxable income.** Subtract line 14 from line 11. If zero or less, enter -0-			15

For Disclosure, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions. Cat. No. 11320B Form **1040** (2021)

Please Turn Page for IMPORTANT SIGNATURES!

CERTIFICATE AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I declare that the information given here is true and correct. I authorized TRIO Upward Bound to receive this information for the purpose of assistance in making program acceptance and postsecondary educational plans. I authorize counselors, teachers, or institutions to release my teen's elementary/middle school transcript (6th, 7th, 8th grades), high school transcripts, test scores (8th Grade and high school Standards Test, PLAN, PSAE, SAT, PARCC, etc.), information regarding his/her financial aid award, enrollment, and/or educational progress including National Student Clearinghouse as a "school official" to obtain all educational information for student tracking and reporting purposes as well as Individual Education Plans (IEP's) and 504's to TRIO Upward Bound.

_____ _____

Signature of Birth/Adoptive/Foster Parent or Adult Responsible for Care **Date**

_____ _____

Signature of Participant **Date**

COUNSELOR NOTES:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

For Office Use Only:

Eligibility:

_____ LI only
_____ FG only
_____ AHR only
_____ LI & FG
_____ LI & ACH
_____ FG & ACH
_____LI, FG & AHR

UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM
REND LAKE COLLEGE

MATH TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

TO THE STUDENT APPLICANT:
Print your name and grade in the spaces below and give this form to your current Math teacher. Please inform your teacher of your deadline date.

Student's Name _____ Grade _____

TO THE MATH TEACHER COMPLETING THIS FORM:
Upward Bound is a federally funded educational program designed to motivate and prepare first-generation students (neither parent having a bachelor's degree) and/or students who fall under the income guidelines determined by the U.S. Department of Education with academic potential for post secondary education.

The above named student is interested in participating in the Upward Bound Program at Rend Lake College. *Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. Your careful evaluation will assist us in gaining a more complete picture of the student applicant.* Please confirm the deadline date with the student.

What level of Math are you currently teaching the student? _____

How long have you known the student? _____ 1 semester _____ 1 year _____ 2 or more years

The student's attendance record is: _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

The student's overall classroom behavior is: _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Please evaluate the student's skill in each of the following areas:

Computation _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Word Problems _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Quantitative Reasoning _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Comments: _____

_____

_____

_____

Continued on other side…

Please evaluate the student's personal and social skill in each of the following areas:

Maturity	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Judgment	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Self-discipline	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Tact	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Academic Commitment	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor

In your opinion, does this student have the academic ability and potential for post-secondary education?

YES NO Comments: _____

Please briefly comment on the student's relative strengths, weaknesses and abilities; and his/her potential for benefiting from the Upward Bound Program.

_____

_____

_____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

I _____ highly recommend _____ recommend _____recommend with reservation _____ do not recommend

this student for the *Rend Lake College's Upward Bound Program.*

Signature _____ Date _____

School _____

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR GUIDANCE STAFF.

Thank you!

UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM
REND LAKE COLLEGE

ENGLISH TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

TO THE STUDENT APPLICANT:
Print your name and grade in the spaces below and give this form to your current English teacher. Please inform your teacher of your deadline date.

Student's Name _____ Grade _____

TO THE ENGLISH TEACHER COMPLETING THIS FORM:
Upward Bound is a federally funded educational program designed to motivate and prepare first-generation students (neither parent having a bachelor's degree) and/or students who fall under the income guidelines determined by the U.S. Department of Education with academic potential for post secondary education.

The above named student is interested in participating in the Upward Bound Program at Rend Lake College. *Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. Your careful evaluation will assist us in gaining a more complete picture of the student applicant.* Please confirm the deadline date with the student.

What level of English are you currently teaching the student? _____

How long have you known the student? _____ 1 semester _____ 1 year _____ 2 or more years

The student's attendance record is: _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

The student's overall classroom behavior is: _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Please evaluate the student's skill in each of the following areas:

Reading/Comprehension _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Writing Skills/Grammar _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Written Expression _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Oral Communication Skills _____ Excellent _____ Good _____Poor

Comments: _____

_____

_____

_____

Continued…

Please evaluate the student's personal and social skill in each of the following areas:

Maturity	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Judgment	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Self-discipline	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Tact	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Academic Commitment	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor

In your opinion, does this student have the academic ability and potential for post-secondary education?

YES NO Comments: _____

Please briefly comment on the student's relative strengths, weaknesses and abilities; and his/her potential for benefiting from the Upward Bound Program.

_____

_____

_____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

I _____ highly recommend _____ recommend _____recommend with reservation _____ do not recommend

this student for the *Rend Lake College's Upward Bound Program.*

Signature _____ Date _____

School _____

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR GUIDANCE STAFF

Thank you!

UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM
REND LAKE COLLEGE

SCIENCE TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

TO THE STUDENT APPLICANT:
Print your name and grade in the spaces below and give this form to your current Science teacher. Please inform your teacher of your deadline date.

Student's Name _____ Grade _____

TO THE SCIENCE TEACHER COMPLETING THIS FORM:
Upward Bound is a federally funded educational program designed to motivate and prepare first-generation students (neither parent having a bachelor's degree) and/or students who fall under the income guidelines determined by the U.S. Department of Education with academic potential for post secondary education.

The above named student is interested in participating in the Upward Bound Program at Rend Lake College. *Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. Your careful evaluation will assist us in gaining a more complete picture of the student applicant.* Please confirm the deadline date with the student.

What level of Science are you currently teaching the student? _____

How long have you known the student? _____ 1 semester _____ 1 year _____ 2 or more years

The student's attendance record is: _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

The student's overall classroom behavior is: _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Please evaluate the student's skill in each of the following areas:

Lab _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Grasp of subject _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Specific
Comments: _____

_____

_____

_____

Continued on other side…

Please evaluate the student's personal and social skill in each of the following areas:

Maturity	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Judgment	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Self-discipline	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Tact	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Academic Commitment	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor

In your opinion, does this student have the academic ability and potential for post-secondary education?

YES NO Comments: _____

Please briefly comment on the student's relative strengths, weaknesses and abilities; and his/her potential for benefiting from the Upward Bound Program.

_____

_____

_____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

I _____ highly recommend _____ recommend _____recommend with reservation _____ do not recommend

this student for the *Rend Lake College Upward Bound Program.*

Signature _____ Date _____

School _____

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR GUIDANCE STAFF

Thank You!

UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM
REND LAKE COLLEGE

COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATION

TO THE STUDENT APPLICANT:
Print your name and grade in the spaces below and give this form to your counselor. Please inform your counselor of your deadline date AND kindly remind him/her that a copy of your transcript must be attached to this form.

Student's Name _____ Grade _____

TO THE COUNSELOR COMPLETING THIS FORM:
Upward Bound is a federally funded educational program designed to motivate and prepare first-generation students (neither parent having a bachelor's degree) and/or students who fall under the income guidelines determined by the U.S. Department of Education with academic potential for post secondary education.

The above named student is interested in participating in the Upward Bound Program at Rend Lake College. *Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. Your careful evaluation will assist us in gaining a more complete picture of the student applicant.*

*Please comment on the student's demonstrated need for services provided by RLC Upward Bound.

_____

_____

_____

Please evaluate the student's personal and social skill in each of the following areas:

Maturity	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Judgment	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Self-discipline	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Tact	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor
Academic Commitment	_____ Excellent	_____ Good	_____ Poor

Continued on other side…

In your opinion, does this student have the academic ability, drive and potential for post-secondary education?

_____YES _____NO

Comments: _____

_____

_____

**PLEASE GIVE US THE STUDENT'S SCORES FOR EITHER 7TH OR 8TH GRADE STANDARIZED TESTING. This helps us determine a student's eligibility as per our DOE guidelines. Please also indicate the test along with the scores.

_____

_____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

I _____ highly recommend _____ recommend _____recommend with reservation _____ do not recommend

this student for the *Rend Lake College's Upward Bound Program.*

Signature _____ Date _____

School _____

*** PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH THE STUDENT'S CURRENT GRADES (Freshmen) AND/OR TRANSCRIPT (Sophomores or Juniors) TO YOUR SCHOOL'S UPWARD BOUND STUDENT ADVISOR.**

WE SO APPRECIATE YOUR HELP!

Thank You!

PERSONAL STATEMENT

In your own words, please explain:

1. **Why you want to participate in the RLC Upward Bound Program & what interests you most about it?**
2. **Why is a college education is important to you?**
3. **Where you would like to go to college and why?**
4. **What do you want to major in, and if undecided, what are your career interests?**
5. **What you would like to "be"!**

_____

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DATE: _____ **STUDENT NAME:** _____

Name: _____

UPWARD BOUND
NEEDS ASSESSMENT

This survey contains a number of statements about student needs. Please give your honest opinion of how Upward Bound can meet your needs. Your answers will be kept strictly confidential.

Academic Needs	**No Need**	**Some Need**	**High Need**
1. To learn how to complete and turn in homework on time.	1	2	3
2. To learn how to study more effectively.	1	2	3
3. To learn how to manage my time more effectively.	1	2	3
4. To get better grades in school.	1	2	3
5. To take test better and with less anxiety.	1	2	3
6. To listen better in class, and ask more questions.	1	2	3
7. To learn how to take better notes.	1	2	3
8. To identify, set and evaluate goals for the future.	1	2	3
9. To develop a better attitude toward learning.	1	2	3
Personal Needs			
1. To better understand my parents and other adults.	1	2	3
2. To learn to deal with conflict in a positive manner.	1	2	3
3. To be more accepting of my physical appearance.	1	2	3
4. To learn how my self-esteem affects my behavior.	1	2	3
5. To learn to accept people who are different from me.	1	2	3
6. To accept greater responsibility for my actions.	1	2	3
Career and College Needs			
1. To explore a variety of career opportunities.	1	2	3
2. To learn more about job applications, resumes, and interviews.	1	2	3
3. To learn more about the college admissions process.	1	2	3
4. To prepare for exams like the SAT.	1	2	3
5. To visit different colleges.	1	2	3
6. To learn more about college cost and how to pay for college.	1	2	3