



Reading Area Community College UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM Fact Sheet

- ➔ **The Upward Bound Program** is free and voluntary to qualified high school students. It is a federally funded grant program authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965 (US Department of Education) through Reading Area Community College.
- ➔ **Goal** is to provide intensive academic support for students to successfully graduate high school and enter post-secondary education.
- ➔ Serves **63 students from Reading High School** identified as low income, first in family to attend college, and who desire guidance and support in pursuing their goal of attaining a college degree.
 - GPA of 2.0 or above is required for participation
 - US citizenship or permanent resident
- ➔ Typically, participants **enter the program** in the summer before 9th grade and stay in the program through their first year of college. Occasionally openings occur during the school year and upper-class students may apply.
- ➔ Prepares high school students for success in postsecondary education through extensive **academic year programs** that include academic advising, college planning, financial aid counseling and career awareness.
- ➔ **Cultural capital** investment through college visitations, cultural field trips and targeted workshops.
- ➔ Required **six-week summer component** includes instruction in **Math, Lab Science, Foreign Language, Composition, and Literature**.
- ➔ Unique partnership program with businesses and community organizations to assist students.
- ➔ On-going relationship with **parents, counselors, and teachers** to ensure student success. Similar to a wrap-around academic support program.
- ➔ **Application process:** fact sheet, interest form, application, two teacher/counselor recommendation forms, interview.
- ➔ **Staff:**
 - Laura C. Kruse, Director
 - Arlene Isardat, Advisor – English/Spanish Bilingual
 - Alan Cook, Advisor
 - John M. Duggan, Advisor
 - Venessa Albarran, Secretary – English/Spanish Bilingual
- ➔ **Offices located** in Reading High School and GoggleWorks.
- ➔ **Call 610.374.0844 or email upwardbound@racc.edu** for additional information or to refer a student.