KEAN UNIVERSITY

UB

UPWARD BOUND APPLICATION

UPWARD BOUND
KEAN UNIVERSITY

KEAN UNIVERSITY | UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

About Upward Bound:

The Kean University Upward Bound Program is a federally funded pre-college preparatory program designed to assist high school students who have the ability and motivation necessary to pursue a program of post-secondary education following high school graduation.

Upward Bound gives high school students an opportunity to learn first-hand what college life is all about and helps the students in the development of the skills necessary to succeed in college. The program emphasizes reading, writing, mathematics, science, foreign language, and study skills.

To qualify for the program, you must meet the following criteria:

- Must have completed the 8th grade, but not have entered the 11th grade.
- Must be attending high school in East Orange or Elizabeth, NJ.
- Must be a potential first-generation college student (neither parent has earned a four year college degree) and/or must meet the U.S. Department of education income guidelines.
- Must show academic need for Upward Bound services.
- Must have interest and commitment to furthering education beyond high school.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident.

As an Upward Bound participant, you will receive

- Year-round intensive academic instruction in mathematics, reading, language arts, literature, science, foreign language, and study skills;
- One on one and/or group, academic, financial literacy and personal counseling;
- Personalized assistance in completing admission tests, college admission, applications, and financial aid and scholarship applications.
- College visits;
- Career education and exploration;
- Leadership and tea building activities;
- Cultural enrichment activities;
- Opportunities to travel to other U.S. Cities.

How much does the program cost?

All Upward Bound Services are provided free of charge to its participants.
Upward Bound program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

Upward Bound Program | Kean University

1000 Morris Avenue, J-334D • Union NJ • 07083 • (908) 737-4032 • ub@kean.edu

UB APPLICATION

PART 1

Upward Bound Program
at Kean University

1000 Morris Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 737-4032
ub@kean.edu
www.kean.edu

Please ensure that all parts of the application are completed and signed.
This form must be completed using blue or black ink.

Information about the Student

Name: _____ Do you intend to go to college? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

High School: _____ Current Grade: _____ Expected Year of Graduation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Student Cell Phone Number: _____

Student Email Address: _____ Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Birth date: _____ Social Security Number: ___ - ___ - ____ US Citizen: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Ethnicity: Are you Hispanic or Latino? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Race (please check all that apply): ☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native ☐ Asian ☐ White ☐ Other: _____
☐ Black/African American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

With whom does the student live? Please check only one: ☐ Both parents ☐ Mother ☐ Father ☐ Legal Guardian ☐ Foster Care
☐ Other (please specify) _____

Parents/Guardians martial status: ☐ Married, living together ☐ Married, living separately ☐ Single ☐ Divorced

Mother/Legal Guardian Information

Name: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

☐ Living ☐ Deceased

Has Mother/Legal Guardian Earned a 4 Year College Degree?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Father/Legal Guardian Information

Name: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

☐ Living ☐ Deceased

Has Father/Legal Guardian Earned a 4 Year College Degree?

☐ Yes ☐ No

How do you as a parent/guardian feel about your student participating in this program?

Financial Information

Staff Initials:

Did the parent(s) file an Income Tax Return for Year 2025? ☐ No ☐ Yes (if yes, please include a copy of **all pages** of the FEDERAL return)

What was your **Taxable Income** for Tax Year 2025:$ _____

For **Form 1040 this is line 43** ; for **Form 1040A this is line 27**; for **Form 1040EZ this is line 6.** If you were not required to file a Federal Return, your Taxable income is $0. *If applying after December 31, 2026, you must provide information referencing Tax Year 2026.*

Total number of members in household: _____

TRIO Income Guidelines:
(Taxable Income as of January 13, 2026)

Family Size				
1	$23,940	5	$58,020
2	$32,460	6	$66,540
3	$40,980	7	$75,060
4	$49,500	8	$83,580

The information contained in this application is for the use of the Upward Bound Programs at Kean University only, and will be held in the strictest confidence. All records are kept in secure locked storage.By signing below you certify that all information contained in this application is correct, complete and accurate (this includes the educational attainment level of both parents, financial information, size of household, etc.) to the best of your knowledge by signing below.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Name (please print) _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Name (please print) _____ Date _____

UB APPLICATION

PART 2

Upward Bound Program
at Kean University

1000 Morris Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 737-4032
ub@kean.edu
www.kean.edu

Please ensure that all parts of the application are completed and signed.
This form must be completed using blue or black ink.

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF EDUCATIONAL RECORDS & ADDITIONAL RELEASES

Please read the following information before signing. All information will be kept confidential.

I hereby grant authorization for my educational records (grades, transcripts and test scores) to be released to the Upward Bound Program at Kean University (KUB). I understand that the Upward Bound Program will request grades at the conclusion of each grading period and transcripts/test scores at least annually. I furthermore agree that the Upward Bound Program may share academic information regarding participation in the Upward Bound Program (grades, test scores, etc.) with my parents and/or high school.

I also authorize the Upward Bound Program at Kean University to use photographs and/or videotape with my image in Upward Bound publications and/or news releases.

Permission is granted for the student to participate in all activities sponsored or attended by Upward Bound Program at Kean University. Permission is granted for Upward Bound staff members to transport the above named student to and from these activities.

We understand that the Upward Bound Program is for students who are able to handle the responsibility of being away from home for the residential summer academy.

We recognize that Upward Bound Program is a major investment by the United States Department of Education and we understand that if the student is accepted and wishes to attend, he or she will be expected to fully participate in the program (both during the academic year and summer academy).

We understand that although travel costs, stipends, room, board, insurance (secondary pay for injuries only) and fees are provided free of charge, the student's family or guardian must assume responsibility for illnesses (including prescription coverage) or pre-existing conditions, medical release forms and any information needed to complete them.

We understand that if the Upward Bound Program at Kean University accepts the applicant, he or she will have to adhere to the program's rules and regulations concerning student responsibility and behavior in the academic and residential life programs. We understand that the Upward Bound Director will have the right to dismiss any student whose behavior is incompatible with the goals and standards of KUB.

We agree that the student, if accepted into KUB, may participate in answering questionnaires and other appropriate and approved research projects done as a part of the program's evaluation.

Kean University, the Upward Bound Program, nor any staff member will be held responsible for any injuries or obligations resulting from these activities.

Activities for which permission is NOT granted:

_____

_____

Over the counter medication NOT to be administered:

_____

_____

Please list the names of two high school teachers (only list teacher of these subjects: English, math, social studies, or science) who will be asked to provide a reference for this student:

Teacher 1: _____ Subject: _____

Teacher 2: _____ Subject: _____

By signing below, you are agreeing to all statements on this page, as well as providing permission for the Upward Bound Program at Kean University to acquire recommendation forms from the two teachers named above.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Name (please print) _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Name (please print) _____ Date _____

PERSONAL STATEMENT

PART 3

Upward Bound Program
at Kean University
1000 Morris Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 737-4032
ub@kean.edu
www.kean.edu

Please type your personal statement and attach it to your application.
Follow the outline below.
Your personal statement should be written in Times New Roman, 12 point font.
1 page minimum and 2 pages max.

- **Paragraph 1:** Introduce yourself. For example: I am the oldest, youngest, or somewhere in between so many brothers and sisters. Include something about your place of birth, your family, and your home life.

- **Paragraph 2:** Describe some of your experiences; explain why you feel that a college education will benefit you and your community. Describe your reasons for wanting to go to college. What are your special interests (music, sports, computers, biology, and another language other than English)? What is your career choice? You might want to mention a person who has influenced you to pursue a college education.

- **Paragraph 3:** Discuss your present grade point average. Are you satisfied with your present grades? If not, what are the factors that have contributed to your low grades: no place to study at home, work after school, illness? Discuss your extracurricular activities. Do you have any special hobbies or talents such as singing, playing an instrument, writing poetry, or sewing?

- **Paragraph 4:** Discuss the future. Why are you applying to the Upward Bound Program at Kean? What are your hopes, dreams, and plans? Have you decided on a career goal? Will you work to better your community? Will you travel?

- **Paragraph 5:** This will be your conclusion and anything else you may want the program to know.

RECOMMEND FOR UB

Counselor Recommendation Form - Part 4

Upward Bound Program
at Kean University

1000 Morris Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 737-4032
ub@kean.edu
www.kean.edu

Please ensure that all parts of the recommendation are completed and signed.
This form must be completed using blue or black ink.

The student listed below is applying to join the Upward Bound Program at Kean University (KUB). We seek recommendations from a guidance counselor at the school the student attends to ensure that we are admitting the best students to our program. The questions on this recommendation will help us assess the students willingness and ability to attend all services offered as well as to learn more about their academic ability. We appreciate your honest and candid answers to all questions, and all information on this form will be held in confidence. Please add this recommendation to the student's application, and email it to ***zaldanap@kean.edu.*** If you have any questions, please contact our office using the contact information listed in the header of this form.

General Information

Student Name: _____ School: _____

Academic Information

Please check if the student completed the following courses by the end of 8th grade: ☐ Pre-Algebra ☐ Algebra ☐ Geometry

Student achieved a GPA of 2.5 or higher for the most recent school year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please check the score for the student's 8th grade PARCC test:

	Novice	Apprentice	Proficient	Distinguished
Math				
Reading				

Does the student have an IEP? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please attach a copy.

Recommendation

Would you recommend admitting this student to Upward Bound? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Explanation of your recommendation: _____

Please rate the student on each of the following:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Academic performance				
Motivation				
Maturity				
Dependability and reliability				
Problem solving skills				
Attendance				
Ability to live away from home				

Is this student interested in attaining a 4 year college/university degree?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure
Do you feel this student has the ability/potential to do college level work?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure
Do you feel this student would attend?: School Visits	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure
Saturday Return Trips	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure
Summer Academy	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure

What are some challenges this students faces in preparing for, getting admitted to and succeeding in education after high school?

_____

_____

Additional comments: _____

_____

_____

Counselor Signature _____ Date _____

RECOMMEND FOR UB

Teacher Recommendation Form - Part 5

Upward Bound Program
at Kean University

1000 Morris Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 737-4032
ub@kean.edu
www.kean.edu

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This form must be completed using blue or black ink.

The student listed below is applying to join the Upward Bound Program at Kean University (KUB). We seek recommendations from two teachers and a guidance counselor at the school the student attends to ensure that we are admitting the best students to our program.

KUB is operated under grants from the U.S. Department of Education, and our ultimate goal is to prepare students to enter and complete post-secondary education. Everything we do is at no cost to the student's family. We offer many services, including: school visits at target high schools, monthly visits to Kean University, cultural trips, and a six-week Summer Academy at Kean University during the months of June and July. The questions on this recommendation will help us assess the students willingness and ability to attend all services offered as well as to learn more about their academic ability. We appreciate your honest and candid answers to all questions, and all information on this form will be held in confidence.

Please return this recommendation to the counseling office, and the guidance counselor will add it to the student's application. You can also return this recommendation via-email to ***zaldanap@kean.edu***. If you have any questions, please contact our office using any of the contact information listed on this form.

General Information

Student Name: _____ School: _____

Teacher Name: _____ Subject in which you've taught student: _____

Recommendation

Would you recommend admitting this student to Upward Bound? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Explanation of your recommendation: _____

_____

_____

Please rate the student on each of the following:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Academic performance				
Motivation				
Maturity				
Dependability and reliability				
Problem solving skills				
Attendance				
Ability to live away from home				

Is this student interested in attaining a 4 year college/university degree?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure
Do you feel this student has the ability/potential to do college level work?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure
Do you feel this student would attend?: School Visits	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure
Saturday Return Trips	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure
Summer Academy	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unsure

What are some challenges this students faces in preparing for, getting admitted to and succeeding in education after high school?

_____

_____

Additional comments: _____

_____

_____

Teacher Signature _____ Date _____

UPWARD BOUND
KEAN UNIVERSITY

RECOMMEND FOR UB

Teacher Recommendation Form - Part 6

Upward Bound Program
at Kean University

1000 Morris Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 737-4032
ub@kean.edu
www.kean.edu

Please ensure that all parts of the recommendation are completed and signed.
This form must be completed using blue or black ink.

The student listed below is applying to join the Upward Bound Program at Kean University (KUB). We seek recommendations from two teachers and a guidance counselor at the school the student attends to ensure that we are admitting the best students to our program.

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Please return this recommendation to the counseling office, and the guidance counselor will add it to the student's application. You can also return this recommendation via-email to ***zaldanap@kean.edu***. If you have any questions, please contact our office using any of the contact information listed on this form.

General Information

Student Name: _____ School: _____

Teacher Name: _____ Subject in which you've taught student: _____

Recommendation

Would you recommend admitting this student to Upward Bound? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Explanation of your recommendation: _____

_____

_____

Please rate the student on each of the following:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Academic performance				
Motivation				
Maturity				
Dependability and reliability				
Problem solving skills				
Attendance				
Ability to live away from home				

Is this student interested in attaining a 4 year college/university degree?		Yes		No		Unsure
Do you feel this student has the ability/potential to do college level work?		Yes		No		Unsure
Do you feel this student would attend?:	School Visits	Yes		No		Unsure
	Saturday Return Trips	Yes		No		Unsure
	Summer Academy	Yes		No		Unsure

What are some challenges this students faces in preparing for, getting admitted to and succeeding in education after high school?

_____

_____

Additional comments: _____

_____

_____

Teacher Signature _____ Date _____

UPWARD BOUND
KEAN UNIVERSITY

CERTIFICATION

PART 7

Upward Bound Program
at Kean University

1000 Morris Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 737-4032
ub@kean.edu
www.kean.edu

******IMPORTANT SIGNATURES******

By signing below, we/I certify that all of the information given in this application is true and correct to the best of our/my knowledge. I understand that any false or misleading information may result in disqualification of the applicant. igning below, we/I certify that all of the information given in this application is true and correct to the best of our/my knowledge. I understand that any false or misleading information may result in disqualification of the applicant.

_____ _____

Student's Signature **Date**

_____ _____

Parent's Signature **Date**

Privacy Act

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law No. 93-579, 5 U. S.C. 552A), you are hereby notified that the Department of Education is authorized to collect information to implement the Upward Bound Program under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (Pub. Law 102-325, sec. 402C). In accordance with this authority, the Department receives and maintains personal information on participants in the Upward Bound Program. The principle purpose for collecting this information is to administer the program, including tracking and evaluating participants' academic progress. Providing the information on this form, including a Social Security number (SSN), is voluntary; failure to disclosure a SSN will not result in denial of any right, benefit, or privilege to which the participant is entitled. The information provided on this form is to be retain in the program files and may be release to other Department officials in the performance of official duties.

KEAN UNIVERSITY
TRIO-Upward Bound Program
1000 Morris Avenue
Hutchinson J-334D
Union, New Jersey 07083
Office: (908) 737-4032/4033

Dear Applicant:

Before submitting your Upward Bound application, please check to ensure that you have completed and provided the following support documents and return them to the Upward Bound Office. A list of documents follows:

- **Part 1:** Completed Student Application (all appropriate boxes checked/blanks filled in);
- **Part 2:** Signed Authorization for Release of Educational Records and Additional Releases;
- **Part 3:** Personal Statement ;
- **Part 4:** Counselor Recommendation Form;
- **Part 5:** Teacher Recommendation Form;
- **Part 6:** Teacher Recommendation Form;
- **Part 7:** Certification;
- Copies of Student's Transcript, Testing Scores and Report Card;
- Copy of Student's Social Security Card.
- Copy of most recent Income Tax Form (IRS Transcript 1040) OR Verification of non-taxable income

Please return the above items to the Upward Bound Office at Kean University. After verification of all information, the Upward Bound staff will contact you. If you have any question and/or comments, please contact the Upward Bound Office at (908) 737-4032.

Office Use Only:

Received on: _____ **( ) Acceptance Date:** _____

Reviewed on: _____ **( ) Denial Date:** _____

Date: Processed: _____ **( ) Wait Listed On:** _____