

Upward Bound Program Memorandum of Understanding with Hopkins County Schools

The Madisonville Community College Upward Bound (UB) program seeks to positively impact the lives of high school students in our service area. One of the Federal TRIO programs, UB is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and its academic, college preparatory services are offered at no cost to participants. MCC Upward Bound's mission is to be a supportive community that prepares high school students who have limited access to higher education opportunities for a successful college career through a program of engaging academic instruction, experience-based college preparation, and enriching cultural exposure. Only 17% of public high schools nationwide are served by an Upward Bound program.

Some of the goals of the program include improving participants' grades, improving their ACT scores, preparing them for college, and assisting them with the college application process with the end goal of creating college graduates in some of Kentucky's neediest areas. While the Hopkins County School System has a hard-working and dedicated staff, low-income and first-generation students experience unique challenges and hurdles towards enrolling in and completing a post-secondary education. As a result, we offer you the opportunity to work with our staff and to utilize our services to assist you in helping your students achieve their goals and dreams.

In order to successfully assist UB participants in your school and to meet our requirements, Hopkins County Schools must provide us with the following:

- An identified staff member to serve as our school contact
- Prompt responses from the contact to all correspondence
- Time and space to meet with students for a school visit each month
- Excuses from class for students to attend school visits and other UB events
- Time and space to interview applicants when needed
- Referrals from school staff for students who might benefit from the program
- Prompt responses to requests for student transcripts, test scores, etc.
- Access to Infinite Campus for Upward Bound students
- Allow UB to provide required services per U.S. Department of Education regulations and UB grant requirements

This MOU can be modified by mutual consent and will become effective on September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2027.