



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINBLUFF UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

MAIL SLOT # 4914
1200 NORTH UNIVERSITY DRIVE
PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS 71601-4914

Program/Project Director

OFFICE: (870) 575-8517

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September 2, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Upward Bound Academic Year Component will use a hybrid format. The Fall Semester will begin face-to-face on **Saturday, September 26, 2020** and continue face-to-face to Thanksgiving break. After Thanksgiving break, the schedule will switch to a virtual assignment for December stipends. Spring Semester (January 2021) will start off face-to-face and hopefully continue that way until the end of the academic year, **Saturday, May 8, 2021**. The flexibility in the schedule is due to COVID-19 uncertainly. Your patience in this manner is greatly appreciated. Please know that we will keep you updated as to any changes in the program's schedule.

An orientation is planned for both students and parents at 10:00 am in the Henderson-Young Business Building Auditorium **on Saturday, September 26, 2020**. After the orientation, participants will begin the year by meeting with the Academic Advisor. For this meeting we are asking that each student **bring a copy of his/her class schedule for the 2020-21 school year**.

The UAPB Upward Bound Academic Year Component will follow the guidelines of the University system and offer classes face-to-face. COVID-19 considerations and implementations will be enforced. Students will meet face-to-face 1st Saturday and will have an out-of-class assignment for the 2nd scheduled class session. The sixteen (16) week Academic Year Component is an academic program that requires full participation in order to meet the program's objectives.

Students will participate in grade level English Composition, Literature, Math, and Computer Coding classes. All students will also participate in the Physical Fitness/Nutrition component. Students will meet from 9:00am – 1:00pm each Saturday and be divided into 4 groups: The 1st scheduled Saturday of the month= 9th Grade (Group 1, Group 2) and 10th Grade (Group 1, Group 2) will meet for instruction. The 2nd scheduled Saturday of the month= 11th Grade (Group 1, Group 2) and 12th Grade (Group 1, Group 2) will meet for instruction throughout the component.

Students will sign-in upon entering the building, at which time their temperature will be taken and recorded by their name. Students will also receive a 3-ply disposable mask upon entry, that must be thrown away at the end of the day's session. Hand sanitizers will be placed in each classroom also disinfectant spray and gloves will be available. Social Distancing will be practiced in the classrooms and signage (COVID-19) will be in place at entrance/exits. Students will have a 15-minute break between classes at which time the rooms will be re-sanitized.

Absences will be handled on a one-on-one basis. Please bring your excuse for the absence the following meeting Saturday

Should your child contract COVID-19 or has been exposed to COVID-19 you must immediately contact the Upward Bound office. A member of the Upward Bound staff will determine the course of action to be taken based on the Arkansas State Department of Health and UAPB COVID-19 policies. Likewise, if Upward Bound is notified of a COVID-19 case within our program, we will notify parents according to COVID-19 policies and procedures outlined by the Arkansas Department of Health and UAPB COVID-19 team. All cases will be handled on a one-to-one basis.

Each student must have a Certification of Stipend Form on file in our office before a stipend check can be released to the student. Stipends will be distributed on your meeting date beginning with the last meeting in October (Oct. 21) for the month of September and will continue through the May Stipend which will be received in June.

Please note: An alternate Virtual Academic Year Component will be implemented if deemed necessary by university administration. We look forward to seeing you and your child on September 26, 2020 @ 10:00 am. If you have questions, please feel free to call the Upward Bound Office at (870) 575-8517.

Sincerely,

Tenita Shannon-Gragg
Program/Project Director