Upward Bound is one of the largest and longest-running federal programs designed to help economically disadvantaged students prepare for, enter and succeed in college. Upward Bound is “designed to generate skills and motivation necessary for success, in education beyond high school among young people from low-income backgrounds and inadequate secondary school preparation.” The University of Memphis was awarded this grant to service Melrose, Sheffield and Kirby high schools. To learn more about Upward Bound, click here
This past spring, participants in TRIO Upward Bound took an ACT assessment to provide students a prediction of their future ACT score. TRIO Upward Bound students had an average score of 20 on the assessment. After the assessment, students participated in the six-week summer experience providing them with the opportunity to receive ACT preparation in addition to the college courses they took. After the summer experience, students were given another assessment. The second assessment showed an average increase of 1.96 for each grade level.
TRIO Upward Bound Student of the Month

This summer, John Hunt had the opportunity to receive rigorous ACT prep for six weeks here at the University of Memphis. After receiving instructional prep, John took the test on July 14. He recently received his test scores and earned a remarkable 25 on the test. John is well on his way to college. TRIO Upward Bound is College Bound!

John is the first in his family to be part of TRIO Upward Bound and is excited about being a participant in TRIO. He hopes to be the first in his family to attend the University of Memphis. John is well on his way to becoming a future Memphis Tiger!

We Are Tenacious, Resilient, Innovative and Optimistic. We are TRIO.

“Upward Bound is a great program. I am so glad that the University of Memphis finally has a program for high school students like me. TRIO has helped me so much, and I am so happy that they assisted me with the college process.”

-Samahra Paul
2018 Upward Bound Graduate

“TRIO Upward Bound is a great program. If not for TRIO Upward Bound, I would have not had the opportunity to attend orientation for college this fall or enroll at the University of Memphis. They help you with so much, it’s a great program.”

-Katerion Pender
2018 Upward Bound Graduate

“I absolutely love Upward Bound. Ms. Payne has helped me with so much, and I am excited to be a part of such a wonderful program.”

-Tre’von Hayes
Senior, Class of 2019
Upward Bound Student Earns Full Academic Scholarship to the UofM.
Margret Maxwell, valedictorian at Sheffield High School, was undecided on her collegiate choice. After participating in Upward Bound, she received additional assistance and chose to attend the University of Memphis. Read more on how TRIO Upward Bound assisted Margret through her process, click here.

Congratulations to Our First Graduating Class!
TRIO Upward Bound’s first graduating class (2022) enrolls at the University of Memphis. (left to right) Myracle Harris, Mikiyla Freeman, Katerion Pender, Margret Maxwell, and Jasmine West. Student Support Services will ensured these students have a smooth transition by integrating them into Student Success Summer Bridge Program. To learn more about the Summer Bridge Program, click here.