

February 14, 2009

To the Members of the Upward Bound Program's *Class of 2009*:

The Rhode Island College Upward Bound Alumni Association Scholarship Committee invites you to apply for this year's scholarships. Only seniors from the Rhode Island College Upward Bound Program are eligible. Scholarship awards in the amounts of \$2000, \$1000, and \$500 will be announced during the Upward Bound graduation ceremony that will be held in June. The top recipient will have the honor of reading his/her essay on that night. In addition, \$150 book awards, named in honor of Dr. John Nazarian, Eighth President of Rhode Island College, will be given to two seniors who are interviewed – but not selected – for the three major scholarships.

The Upward Bound Scholarship Endowment Fund was established in 1988 and has grown over the years as a result of the vision, gratitude, and commitment of Upward Bound alumni, students, staff, and friends of the program. The Scholarship Committee, comprised of a core group of prominent Upward Bound alumni, has granted \$55,600 in scholarship assistance to forty-seven graduates over the past twenty years. These recipients have achieved great success in postsecondary education, and several have earned advanced degrees in law, medicine, education, and business. The names of the scholarship recipients are listed on the perpetual plaque in the Upward Bound office.

To be considered for one of this year's scholarships, you must:

1. **Type** your application by using a computer. If needed, you can also download a copy of the application which is included in the alumni section of the Upward Bound Web site at www.ric.edu/upward_bound.
2. Submit **all** parts of the application to the Upward Bound office *before the deadline*, which is **noon on Saturday, March 14**. Applications that are incomplete, handwritten, or late will not be considered. A checklist is provided to guide you through the process. Keep in mind that:
 - It is best to hand in your application rather than mail it since there is no mail delivery on weekends.
 - On that day, the Upward Bound office will not provide or accept requests for scholarship application forms, letters of recommendation from UB counselors, or transcripts.
3. Complete a challenging academic curriculum in high school and graduate with your class.
4. Exhibit the qualities necessary to contribute to the future success of Upward Bound.
5. Finalize plans to enroll in a four-year college or university this fall. If you are selected for an interview, you will be expected to provide a copy of a letter of acceptance and confirmation that you plan to enroll.
6. If selected, meet with the members of this committee for an interview at a specific time on Saturday, April 25. You will be informed if you have or have not been selected for an interview. If you do not receive a letter by the end of April, you should call the Upward Bound office to check on your status. If you are granted an interview, you should call to confirm date and time of your interview.

Due to the guidelines of this scholarship, the Upward Bound Counselors and members of this committee will support your efforts in the application process, but they cannot advise or help you in this process. You may, however, ask for assistance from other UB teachers or staff in your high school.

Each of us wishes you success as you continue your pursuit for higher education. Upon your graduation, we invite you to help us plan future events to benefit Upward Bound and the Scholarship Endowment.

Sincerely,

Members of the 2009
Upward Bound Alumni Scholarship Committee

Enclosures:

- Application Checklist for Class of 2009
- Scholarship Application Guidelines

Rhode Island College Upward Bound Program
 Upward Bound Alumni Scholarship Endowment Program
Application Checklist – Class of 2009

Suggested Steps to Complete Application Process If any of the following are missing, your application will not be complete and you will be disqualified as a candidate for the scholarships.	Make Notes About Your Progress for Each Step Listed at Left
<input type="checkbox"/> Attach a <i>copy</i> of your high school transcript (grade 9 through 1 st trimester or 2 nd quarter senior year). If you wish to provide an official copy, be sure to request it from your high school guidance office & make arrangements to pick up that information in advance of the deadline.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Request copy of your Upward Bound transcript from the Upward Bound office.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Request a character reference letter from an adult (not a relative and not your Upward Bound counselor) who knows you well. Ask the person soon so that you include it with your application.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Request a letter of recommendation from your UB counselor. This letter may address your qualifications for this scholarship <u>or</u> it may be a letter that they wrote in support of your application for college. Do this early!	
<input type="checkbox"/> Draft your responses to essay questions in the application.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Revise, proofread, and type your application using a computer. <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure all sections are complete. <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure all essays (two short topics) and major essay.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pick up your high school transcript – official or copy.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pick up your UB academic transcript.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain your letter of recommendation from your UB counselor.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain your character reference letter.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Package completed application and confirm that you have attached all information required. <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure all required information (application, transcripts, letters, etc.) are included before you submit the package.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hand deliver completed application to the Upward Bound office on or before the deadline of noon on Saturday, March 14. Reminder: On that day, the UB office will <u>not</u> provide or accept requests for scholarship application forms, letters of recommendation from UB counselors, or transcripts.	

Rhode Island College Upward Bound Program
Scholarship Application Guide for the Class of 2009

Applicants should use a computer to complete the application and personal essay. All required application materials must be received in the Upward Bound office before the deadline of **noon on Saturday, March 14.**

I. Personal Information

- List name of applicant, home address, and home telephone number.
- **Attach** a reference letter that talks about your character.
- **Include your** resume or a list that includes the following information:
 - Employment history: name of your employer, your position, and dates of employment.
 - Community leadership or volunteer activities in which you were involved.

II. High School Information

- Name of high school:
- **Attach** copy of your high school transcript for entire period (*grade 9 through 1st trimester or 2nd quarter senior year*)
- **Attach** resume or provide a list of the following information:
 - Activities in which you have frequently participated
 - Dates of participation
 - Leadership roles, if any
 - Honors or special recognition you received during your high school years.

III. Upward Bound Program Information

- Enrollment date and years of participation in Program
- **Attach** a copy of your Upward Bound academic transcript.
- **Attach** a copy of a recommendation letter from your Upward Bound counselor.
- Provide a list of and dates for the following information:
 - Special academic awards you received
 - Leadership roles you assumed in the Program, such as recruitment presentations, new student orientation activities, and fundraisers.

Short Essay Question #1: If you were the recipient of a full scholarship from the institution of your choice and a winner of an Upward Bound scholarship, how would you spend your Upward Bound scholarship monies?

IV. Post-Secondary Information

Short Essay Question #2: What are your educational/career goals? Explain why you have made this decision.

V. Essay Question for the Class of 2009 – This is the essay that the top recipient would read during the Upward Bound graduation ceremony!

▲ Compose and **attach** a well-developed essay of at least 500 words in length that addresses the following issue: *Due to the historic downward trend of the economy, the government has cut funding for all Upward Bound programs in the country, including the Upward Bound at Rhode Island College. Bill Gates will donate 50 million dollars to the most worthy organization in the United States. Write an essay about the worth of Upward Bound by recalling your experiences of the program and its impact on you: past, present and future. Convince Bill Gates that he should donate his money to your Upward Bound Program, Rhode Island College Upward Bound!*