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**SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY AWARDED \$4.1M TO HELP LOW INCOME,  
POTENTIAL FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS ACCESS HIGHER  
EDUCATION**

*Two TRIO Upward Bound grants will each provide five years of funding to help 167 local students each year find their pathways to college.*

[San Diego, California]—The U.S. Department of Education announced that SDSU's Pre-College Institute has received two federal Upward Bound (UB) grants for \$4,032,785 over five years to help more low-income students who would be the first members of their families to earn degrees to prepare for and enroll in college. Annual funding for UB Classic is \$460,922 for a five-year total of \$2,304,610. Annual funding for UB STAR is \$366,430 for a five-year total of \$1,832,150. This marks continuous funding for Upward Bound Classic since 1983 and for UB STAR since 1999.

Upward Bound, one of the federal TRIO Programs, is an intensive intervention that prepares students for higher education through various enrichment courses. At least two-thirds of the students in each local Upward Bound program are from low-income economic backgrounds and families in which neither parent has a bachelor's degree.

“The competitive renewal process has become more demanding each year. Successful funding relied on the participation of project leads Dr. Karla Blanco, Director of Summer Residential Programs, and Mrs. Michelle Valles, Coordinator of Recruitment & Work Study Internships. Halan Stanfield, Evaluation Research Specialist managed the total submission. Dr. Kathy Kailikole, our consultant, has created a new model for examining the need of our constituents in their communities and in setting the target objectives which are ambitious and

attainable as well as the three opportunities to earn competitive preference points (CCP's)," said Dr. Cynthia Park, Executive Director of the SDSU Pre-College Institute.

Campus-based Upward Bound programs provide students instruction in literature, composition, mathematics, science, and foreign language during the school year and the summer. Upward Bound also provides intensive mentoring and support for students as they prepare for college entrance exams and tackle admission applications, financial aid, and scholarship forms.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, 86% of Upward Bound participants enroll in postsecondary institutions immediately following high school graduation. In FY21, more than 70,000 students enrolled in 966 Upward Bound TRIO projects in the United States.

In 1964, the Economic Opportunity Act established Upward Bound as a pilot program in response to the War on Poverty. It was the first of seven federal "TRIO" programs to later be authorized by the Higher Education Act to help college students succeed in higher education. It recognizes that students whose parents do not have a college degree have more difficulties navigating the complexity of decisions that college requires for success, bolsters students from low-income families who have not had the academic opportunities that their college peers have had and helps remove obstacles preventing students from thriving academically.

"As systemic inequality and financial hardship discourage students from succeeding in college, TRIO programs like Upward Bound take on new importance because they continue to help students who are low-income and first-generation to earn college degrees," said Maureen Hoyler, president of the non-profit Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) in Washington, D.C. COE is dedicated to furthering the expansion of college opportunities for low-income, first-generation students, and students with disabilities nationwide.

As of 2021, over 3,000 TRIO projects serve approximately 855,000 participants yearly. TRIO projects are in every state and territory in the nation.

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Since 1983, the SDSU Pre-College Institute has setup partnerships between federally funded TRIO programs, public schools, and academic departments/research units at the University. The Institute has integrated three existing federally funded programs (Talent Search, Upward Bound Classic, and Upward Bound STAR/Classic) to serve underrepresented students and their teachers in low-income neighborhoods.