

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
UPWARD BOUND PINER
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who is eligible to enroll in Upward Bound Piner?

Students eligible for Upward Bound Piner:

- Attend or plan to attend Piner High School
- Meet one (or more) of the following criteria:
 - Low-Income (as outlined by the federal government)
 - First-Generation (the student's parents have not graduated from a four-year college/university in the United States)
 - Foster or Homeless Youth

2. When are the Upward Bound Piner Applications due?

All completed applications must be postmarked by **January 31st**.

Completed applications can be emailed, mailed or faxed to:

SSU Pre-Collegiate Programs
Upward Bound Programs
1801 E. Cotati Avenue
Rohnert Park, CA 94928-3609
Phone: (707) 664-2359
Email: upwardbound@sonoma.edu

Completed applications can also be dropped off in Room I91.

3. What application documents are required?

- Application (including the seven short answer questions and the Personal Statement)
- Income Verification Form
- Current transcript with final December grades
- Counselor Recommendation Form
- Teacher Recommendation Form
 - Math, Science, English, or AVID teacher

You can download the complete application packet (an application, the Income Verification Form, and the Recommendation Forms) from our website at precollegiate.sonoma.edu, or pick up an application packet in Room I91.

4. What if my parent(s)/guardian(s) did not file 2023 taxes?

If your parent(s)/guardian(s) did not file 2023 taxes (1040 or 1040A Tax Form), they are still required to fill out the **Income Verification Form**. You can find this form in the application packet or on our website at precollegiate.sonoma.edu. This form must be completed and submitted with the application materials by the application deadline.

5. When will I be notified of my status?

Letters will be mailed regarding applicants' admission status in April 2025.

6. How are students selected for admission to the program?

Students are chosen for the program based on their completed application, short answer responses, personal statement, teacher/counselor recommendation forms, and the student-parent interview. Point values are given to all items, which are then totaled. Students are then ranked by this total point value from greatest to least within their respective school and grade level.

7. How do I remain eligible?

To remain eligible, students in the program must participate in program activities throughout his/her years of high school, once admitted, by attending the Upward Bound class at Piner during the school year and Summer Academy at Sonoma State University during the summer. Students must also attend all relevant Upward Bound Piner workshops, field trips, events, and outreach meetings.

Students must enroll in the following "A-G" college preparatory high school classes throughout high school: English (4 years); Math (3+ years); Science with a Lab (2+ years); Foreign Language (2+ years); Social Science (2 years); Visual and Performing Arts (1 year); College Prep Elective (1 year). Upward Bound Piner students must maintain good academic standing in all classes.

8. What is involved in the level of commitment?

Upward Bound Piner participants remain in the program through their high school graduation and must attend all school-day and Summer Academy sessions.

9. Are there any costs to participate in Upward Bound Piner?

All services provided by Upward Bound Piner are **free**. Students may want to purchase personal items not covered by the programs on the various field trips; however, all transportation, meals, supplies, and tickets for special events are included at no cost for the Upward Bound participants.

10. Are meals provided?

All meals are provided at no cost for Upward Bound events. This includes Summer Academy lunches and field trip and special event meals.

11. What are the dates of Summer/STEM Academy?

Summer/STEM Academy 2025 will be held from June 10 through July 18, 2025, Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am – 2:30 pm. Summer field trips will be held on Fridays or Saturdays. Students and parents will be notified in advance of all field trips.

12. Who should I call if I have questions about Upward Bound Piner?

If you have any questions regarding your application or the application process, please email garciaa23@sonoma.edu or see Ms. Penning in Room I91. To learn more about Upward Bound Piner, please visit our website at <https://precollegiate.sonoma.edu>.