



David G. Alvis, Director
602 E. 1st North Street, Morristown, Tennessee 37814
(423) 318-6930 or Toll Free (866) 631-4120

TO: Upward Bound Students and Parents
FROM: David G. Alvis, M.Ed. TRIO Director
RE: 2025/2026 Program Commitment Form

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to participate in the 2025 – 2026 Upward Bound Program Year. I look forward to another year of providing you with superior academic support services. The Upward Bound Program is composed of two major parts: the academic year and summer component. Beginning in September and continuing through April, academic support is provided in the schools via weekly contacts and 8 Saturday sessions (Eagle Days). The summer component (which is optional) is typically held in June and July. You will receive information on summer program in the spring.

The school-based component will include weekly contacts to address an array of study skills and an academic tutoring program. With the help of the local school systems, we will continue to provide a full-service tutoring program for the Upward Bound students at NO CHARGE!!! This free tutoring program will be available to all UB students and is required of a few (please see handbook at www.trio-dcea.org/ub). I am confident you will find that the tutoring program will be of great benefit to our students. I hope to continually reinforce the relationship between high school grades and the acceptance into the college and/or university of their dreams.

The UB Academic Year will assist your son/daughter in the following areas:

- Instruction in English, Math, Science and Foreign Language
- ACT preparation, ACT Profile (Upward Bound will pay for one test)
- Financial Literacy Preparation; Career Exploration
- College Admission Fee Help
- Study Skills (time management, note taking, test taking, etc.)
- Counseling Services (personal, career, and social)
- Choosing and Filling out Postsecondary Applications (two and four-year colleges and universities)
- Financial Aid Information, FAFSA Completion;
- Cultural Trips
- College Visits
- Tutorial Services
- As well as promoting physical/mental health and cultural/social growth

There is no charge for these services. In fact, students will receive a stipend for participating in the UB program. I look forward to working with your son/daughter and your continued support in their success.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Alvis".

David Alvis, Program Director

STUDENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Student Name _____ Grade (circle one) 9, 10, 11, 12

Student Mailing Address _____

Student Cell # _____ Student Email Address _____

Student Home Phone # _____

Parent Name _____ Parent Cell # _____

Please review this year's Eagle Day dates. Attendance on Eagle Days is crucial to the overall goals of Upward Bound – and while I don't expect every student to attend every Eagle Day, I would like for all students to try to attend as many as they can).

2025 – 2026 Academic Year Saturday Sessions

- 1) September 20, 2025 @ CNU
- 2) October 25, 2025 @ CNU
- 3) November 15, 2025 (college visit)
- 4) December 13, 2025 (Christmas trip)
- 5) January 31, 2026 @ CNU (senior sash day)
- 6) February 21, 2026 (college visit)
- 7) March 21, 2026 @ CNU
- 8) April 4, 2026 (spring trip)



LIABILITY WAIVERS (must be signed by student and parent/legal guardian)

STUDENT

I _____, agree to participate in Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority's (DCEA) Upward Bound Program. I release Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, DCEA's Upward Bound Programs I & II, Carson-Newman University, TRIO Director, program staff, and volunteers from any liabilities they may have as a result of any accident and/or injury associated with my participation in the Upward Bound Program. Furthermore, I agree to hold harmless and indemnify the aforementioned released parties. This waiver covers all program functions/activities/trips that occur during the 2025/2026 program year (9/1/2025 – 8/31/2026).

(Student Signature)

(Date)

PARENT/GUARDIAN

I give permission for my son/daughter, _____, to participate in Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority's (DCEA) Upward Bound Program. I release Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, DCEA's Upward Bound Programs I & II, Carson-Newman University, TRIO Director, staff, and volunteers from any liabilities they may have as a result of any accident and/or injury associated with my child's participation in the Upward Bound Program. Furthermore, I agree to hold harmless and indemnify the aforementioned released parties. This waiver covers all program functions/activities/trips that occur during the 2025/2026 program year (9/1/2025 – 8/31/2026).

(Parent # 1 and/or Guardian Signature)

(Date)

(Parent # 2 and/or Guardian Signature – if available)

(Date)