

**Senior (April / Unit 18):  
Postsecondary Financial Plan and UB Exit Interview**

**Objective: To work with your parents to make a postsecondary financial plan.**

To successfully complete this unit and receive your stipend, complete the following activities:

- Complete all activities in this unit.
- Complete and include your **Student Grade Check** form.
- Include your parent/guardian's signature on the **Evaluation Sheet**.
- Complete the **Stipend Request** form.
- **Have site sponsor sign the Mid-Month Check-In** (*does not need to be finished*) by \_\_\_\_\_ .
- **Be prepared to review it with UB staff on** \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Stipend Requirements**

Stipend Amounts	Possible Portfolio Completions
<b>Complete = \$40.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Unit 100% complete</u>: turned in on time, parent/guardian signature, and site sponsor signature.</li> </ul>
<b>Partial = \$30.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Unit 75% complete</u>: includes parent/guardian and site sponsor signatures.</li> <li>• <u>Unit 100% complete</u>: includes parent/guardian signature; <u>does not</u> include site sponsor signature.</li> </ul>
<b>Partial = \$20.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Unit 100% complete</u>: <u>does not</u> include parent/guardian signature.</li> <li>• <u>Unit 50% complete</u>: includes parent/guardian and site sponsor signatures.</li> </ul>
<b>Incomplete = \$0</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Unit less than 50% complete</u> (even if unit includes parent/guardian and site sponsor signatures)</li> </ul>

**What to do if you are absent on portfolio visit days!**

Planned Absences (e.g. sports games, field trips, etc.)	Unplanned Absences (e.g. sick, flat tire, abduction by aliens, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give your binder to your site sponsor <u>before you leave</u>. UB staff will review your work, and you are eligible for a full \$40 stipend.</li> <li>• If you forget to leave your binder with your site sponsor before you leave but turn it in to your sponsor the <u>first day you return</u>, you are eligible for a \$20 maximum stipend (even if the unit is fully complete). If there are unforeseen problems with finishing your unit, <u>notify your site sponsor and/or UB staff immediately</u>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give your binder to your site sponsor <u>the day you return to school</u>. You are still eligible for a full \$40 stipend.</li> <li>• If you forget to give your binder to your site sponsor <u>the day you return</u>, you have <u>24 hours</u> to turn in your unit for a \$20 maximum stipend (even if the unit is fully complete). If there are unforeseen problems with finishing your unit, <u>notify your site sponsor and/or UB staff immediately</u>.</li> </ul>

**Upward Bound Contacts**

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**Personal Affirmation**

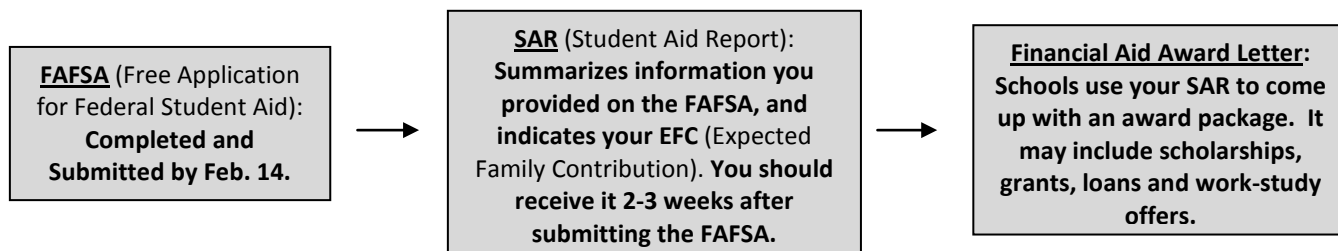
## Personal Affirmation

Write your affirmation by describing who you are – or strive to be!

“I am a/an \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.”  
(adjective) (adjective) (adjective) (your role)

### Step 1: Reminder of Financial Aid Process

To refresh your memory, the financial aid process goes a little like this:



### Step 2: Financial Aid Award Letters

What You Should Know Before You Accept and Return the Financial Aid Award Letter:

#### Is the Award an Estimate or the Real Deal?

Some schools will send an estimated financial aid award based on your estimated financial information. If the word “estimate” is on your award letter, the actual award may end up being higher or lower. If you receive an estimated award, contact the school’s financial aid office to find out more information, and to ensure that they are not waiting for more information from you prior to finalizing an actual award. **Note that if you are selected for “verification” and have not submitted all requested financial documents (tax forms, w-2s, etc.), your award letter will be an estimate, not the final package.**

#### Note Any Deadlines: Missing Deadlines Can Be Costly!

When choosing your final school, you will need to inform the Financial Aid Office in writing of the award(s) that you plan to accept. **If you do not respond by the date indicated, portions of your financial aid award could be lost!** If you have any questions about your award or accepting your award, please contact the financial aid office, your school counselor, and / or the Upward Bound Staff!

#### Select the College of Your Choice

After the many months / years of building college dreams and exploring possibilities, it is final decision time. Comparing the financial aid award packages and college costs at your top schools is a key step in making the final decision in terms of which college is right for you!

#### How Will You Receive Your Financial Aid?

Your financial aid will be credited to your account at the school. If there is a surplus of money in the account after all your bills and fees are paid, the business office will disburse this amount to you, usually as a direct deposit to your bank account. Keep in mind that some financial aid, especially tribal aid and outside scholarships, may not arrive in your account until AFTER the semester has begun. **If you drop out of school (which we know you will not do!), you can be responsible for repaying back any award money to the school or other awarding entity disbursed to you.**

#### A Loan Versus a Credit Card

Students are sometimes tempted to decline a loan (“I don’t want to get into debt”) and then end up paying some portion of college costs and living expenses through a credit card. This is a very bad financial decision! For example, \$20,000 in student loans would be paid back over 10 years at \$224 a month for a total payment of \$26,516. The same \$20,000 on credit cards would be paid over 10 years at \$360 a month for a total of \$43,244!!! If you are sure you can manage your college costs without a loan, you can decline (or ask about deferring, in which case the loan may still be available to you later should you discover mid-semester that you need more funds to complete the semester).

### **Not Enough Money for College?**

If you have read your award letter and discover that there is a large gap of unmet financial need between the “Cost of Attendance” (COA) and the aid award you are offered, there may still be some options available to help you meet the cost.

- 1) Research more scholarships: Many have a summer deadline. You should also continue to research and apply for scholarships throughout your time in college. Many are available only to upperclassmen in specific majors.
- 2) Consult the school’s Financial Aid or Bursar’s Office about the availability of payment plans.
- 3) If your school is close enough, consider commuting from home rather than living on-campus.
- 4) Finally, it may be time to look at another of your school options, particularly a two-year or community college option.

### **Step 3: Student and Parent Reflection**

Once you and your parents have finished reading the materials and completed the budget worksheet contained in this unit, you should both answer the following questions.

#### **Student**

*Your senior year is almost over, as are these portfolio units. In a little over four months, you will be headed off to college. What are your lingering worries, fears, and/or unanswered questions about your upcoming college experience? Please write them in the space below.*

Talk to your parents (especially your parents!), guidance counselors, and/or Upward Bound staff and try to resolve these issues. Although there are worries that will remain with you until you get to college, meet your roommate, and start attending classes, there are many uncertainties that can be worked through before you leave home.

## Parents

*You might experience some fears and worries of your own as your child prepares to leave for college. Please take a minute to write some of these things in the space below. Then talk with your child about them. Figure out a way that you can support each other and make the college experience a positive one for both of you.*

**Step 4: Upward Bound Senior Exit Interview**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Admissions Status				
			Accepted?	Attending?
1 <sup>st</sup> Choice School				
2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice School				
3 <sup>rd</sup> Choice School				
Other Plans (please explain):				

*The information you provide in this section is strictly for tracking purposes. It is confidential, and will not be shared with the public.*

Financial Aid Status		
	Yes	No
Have you completed and submitted your FAFSA for the coming school year?		
Have you received your Student Aid Report (SAR)?		
Have you received a financial award letter from your intended college?		

*If you answered "yes" to any of the above, please complete the table below. Please bring award letter(s) to your portfolio meeting if we do not already have copies!*

	School #1	School #2	School #3
School Name			
Federal Pell Grant	\$	\$	\$
Federal Perkins Loan	\$	\$	\$
Federal Stafford Loan	\$	\$	\$
Unsubsidized loans (PLUS, etc.)	\$	\$	\$
College-Specific Scholarships / Grants	\$	\$	\$
Tribal Scholarships	\$	\$	\$
Total Financial Aid Award	\$	\$	\$
Total Cost of Attendance	\$	\$	\$

*If you are receiving scholarships for the coming school year, please complete the following table.*

<b>Scholarship(s) Applied For (Please write the name of each scholarship on a separate line)</b>	<b>Scholarship Received (Yes or No)</b>	<b>Amount Received</b>

Please write any questions you have related to your financial aid, and we will do our best to answer.

**Summer Plans**

What are your plans for the coming summer (e.g., bridge program, previews, orientation, work, etc.)?

Do you have any questions about bridge programs, previews, orientation, or anything else related to the coming summer? If so, please write them down, and we will find the answers.

### **Career Goals**

Have you decided on a major field of study? If so, what is it?

If you are undecided about your major, can you list some areas of study in which you might be interested?

## Your Contact Information

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Cell Number

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Home Number

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Email

*If we are unable to reach you next fall at any of the above contact information, who can we contact that will know how to get in touch with you?*

**Name #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Final Questions**

*What were the best parts of your Upward Bound experience? What aspects / activities were most helpful in preparing you to continue your education after high school?*

*What is one thing you wish Upward Bound would have done differently? What could Upward Bound have done to better prepare you for college?*

*Did your attitude towards college / school change during your time in Upward Bound? Please explain your answer.*

*Would you recommend Upward Bound to younger students at your high school who are interested in pursuing a college education? Please explain your answer.*

# ACADEMIC RELEASE FORM

## Upward Bound

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Upward Bound Program  
Northern Arizona University  
P.O. Box 6035  
Flagstaff, AZ 86011  
(928) 523-6988 (Office)  
(928) 523-9466 (Fax)

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Printed Student Last Name

First Name MI

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Social Security Number

I authorize the Upward Bound Program at Northern Arizona University to request and / or release information pertaining to my academic records at any time and all secondary and post-secondary educational institutions which I attend.

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Student's Signature

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Date

**SENIOR PORTFOLIO MID-MONTH CHECK – IN SHEET**  
**April / Unit 18 • Postsecondary Financial Plan and UB Exit Interview**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions: To obtain full credit complete this check-in sheet of your unit work.**

- It is advisable that you take time to think of what portfolio work you need to complete between now and the day your portfolio is due, and get to work on it!
- Please circle the appropriate response and answer in complete sentences where asked.
- **Site Sponsor must sign Check – In Sheet by due date on the 1<sup>st</sup> page of your portfolio unit.** This is typically 1 week before your portfolio visit.

1. What parts of the unit have you completed?

- a) all of it
- b) half or more
- c) very little of it
- d) none of it

2. What parts of the unit do you still need to complete?

3. What part of this unit, if any, are you having difficulties with? Why?

4. What type of help do you need, if any, in order to complete unit by the due date?

**FOR SITE SPONSOR TO COMPLETE:**

Unit at least ½ complete: Y N

Site Sponsor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

