



University of New Hampshire Upward Bound Summer 2026 Residential Bridge Advisor Positions



For Application Materials & Questions: Joshua.Gagnon@unh.edu

What is the TRIO Upward Bound Bridge Program?

The Upward Bound Summer Bridge Academy takes place on the campus of the University of New Hampshire where students live in a UNH residence hall, eat at a UNH dining hall, and attend workshops and classes in academic buildings throughout the campus. UB staff are committed to education and to helping young people and have the opportunity to create an educational Summer Academy that is both interesting and inspiring. The purpose of the academic component is to prepare the students for success in college. Bridge students attend a 2-week on campus program that focuses on the “bridge” from high school to college. There is also a social and leadership component of the Bridge Summer Program. Bridge students will engage in in-person and online workshops, group meetings and learning activities to develop confidence and self-advocacy skills that will help them successfully transition to and succeed in college. Our goal is to help students learn to balance Academic Success, Student Life, and Career Preparation and Exploration. We strive to develop a strong peer support group for our students as it relates to community building, support for academics, and support for peers in the future. We hope that students will learn to see and believe in themselves as capable and resourceful students and individuals who are independent and yet connected to supports in the classroom and the greater community.

The UNH Upward Bound Bridge students have:

- Been in the program for at least one year,
- Graduated from high school,
- Been accepted to and enrolled in a College / University for the upcoming fall semester.

The Role of the Bridge Advisor

The Bridge Advisor position is one of the most important jobs at Upward Bound. They represent the philosophy of the program and assist 10 UB graduates bridge the gap between graduating high school and beginning their college journey this fall. They also assist the residential supervisor in overseeing the day-to-day programming and safety in the summer residence hall for the entire Summer Academy. They communicate commitment, respect for others, healthy risk-taking, and a strong sense of community. Characteristically, they enjoy working with high school students, and are completely trustworthy, compassionate, enthusiastic individuals dedicated to the ideals of educational opportunity and helping others. **Please note, this is a residential position, and staff are required to live on campus, in the program residence hall, with the other staff and student participants.**

As the Bridge Advisor, your responsibilities would include, but not be limited to:

- Pre-Summer: Assist in the planning of the summer Bridge program; coordinate pre-summer communications (via mailings, email and phone) with students accepted to the Bridge program; work with UNH and other PSE institutions to develop workshops for the Bridge students.
- Monitor progress of students in their summer college to career course, research projects, and goal setting. With the Bridge program mission in mind, assist students in balancing the demands of life with those of academics.
- Develop and coordinate Bridge students' responsibilities and schedules within the program.
- Facilitate weekly Bridge meetings and workshops.
- Provide overall supervision of Bridge students' program participation, success & challenges.
- Assist students in understanding financial aid packages and help students seek additional funding if necessary.

- Provide ongoing advising to Bridge students on matters related to the transition between high school and college.
- Provide ongoing support to Bridge as they research work-study opportunities and prepare for applications, interviews, working as a college student, etc.
- Provide mid-summer and final written residential evaluations of Bridge students.
- Assist the residential supervisor with delivery of services to students and overseeing all aspects of the residential program including coordinating staff development activities, developing fun & engaging cultural and co-curricular programming, running community meetings, and ensuring safety of staff and participants.

2026 Summer Academy Dates & Salary:

- Teacher-Mentor Training Week: Saturday, June 13 – Friday, June 19
- Summer Academy: June 21-July 31
- Post-Program Evaluation Week: August 3-6
- Salary: \$5,000 plus room & board for entire Summer Academy (\$1,575 value)
 - \$1,289 AmeriCorps Education Award also available to those who are eligible.

The Upward Bound summer program is a challenging and personally significant experience for both students and staff. Our days are filled with people, activities, meetings, classes, and the business of daily living. They are also filled with supporting and encouraging students as well as one another, taking healthy challenges and risks, and finding delight in discovering new friends, ideas, perspectives, and interests. **An Upward Bound summer is demanding, but, as a result, its rewards are great, and you'll discover that some of the greatest benefits of a summer at Upward Bound are the things you'll learn about yourself!**

Requirements

Minimum Requirements:

- Enrollment in, or recent completion of, an AA/AS/BS/BA program.
- One year's experience as UB Tutor-Mentor or as a college RA.
- Sensitivity and maturity level to assume a leadership role and successfully work in a residential program with high school aged students.
- Ability to interact with diverse constituencies including program & UNH staff, parents/guardians, and students.
- Desire to help disadvantaged youth succeed.
- Must be able to pass a comprehensive background check.

Desired Qualifications:

- Experience participating in a TRIO, or similar, pre-college program *or* experience in overcoming obstacles similar to those of the UB-eligible population.
- Experience in tutoring (specifically core areas of literature & composition, math, and science).
- Experience in residential, small group, and/or team building programming.
- Experience working with high school students.
- Experience working with students from low-income backgrounds, multi-ethnic backgrounds, and/or who are potential first-generation college graduates.

To Apply

To apply, contact Josh Gagnon, Director, UNH Upward Bound at Joshua.Gagnon@unh.edu.

Hiring begins immediately and applications will be accepted until positions are filled.

The University System of New Hampshire is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access/Affirmative Action employer. The University System is committed to creating an environment that values and supports diversity and inclusiveness across our campus communities and encourages applications from qualified individuals who will help us achieve this mission. The University System prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or marital status. Application by members of all underrepresented groups to open employment positions is encouraged.

The University of New Hampshire is committed to providing a safe environment for all persons, including but not limited to children, and to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect and crimes against children. UNH youth program staff are subject to periodic criminal background checks and shall complete periodic child safety training. This offer of employment/volunteer service is contingent upon a satisfactory background check. In addition, all UNH staff that serve and have unsupervised access to minors shall be required to take an online training module on child safety.

Upward Bound is funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Funding level for 2026-2027 is \$591,623. All employment at UNH Upward Bound is contingent upon continued funding from the US Department of Education.