

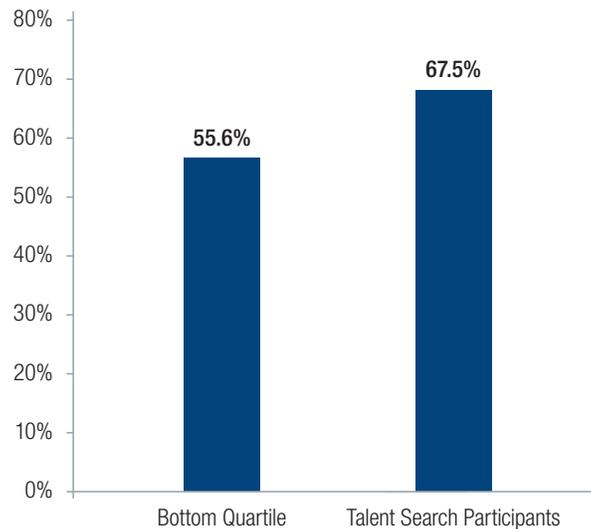
## Pre-Collegiate TRIO Programs



**Talent Search** focuses on low-cost, early interventions for students in grades 6-12. Students receive academic, career, and financial counseling; participate in college visits; and receive assistance with college entrance exams, admission applications, and financial aid forms.

Data from 2022 indicates that 67.5% of Talent Search participants enrolled in a postsecondary education program immediately after high school graduation. Only 56% of students from the bottom income quartile enroll in a postsecondary education program immediately after high school graduation.<sup>1 2</sup>

### Postsecondary Enrollment



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, Talent Search, *Grantee-Level Performance Report*, Washington, D.C., 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Cahalan, M.W., Brunt, N., Vaughan III, T., Montenegro, E., Breen, S., Ruffin, E., & Perna, L.W. (2024). *Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States 2024: 50-Year Historical Trend Report*. Washington, DC: The Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) and Alliance for Higher Education and Democracy of the University of Pennsylvania (Penn AHEAD).

## Pre-Collegiate TRIO Programs (CONT.)

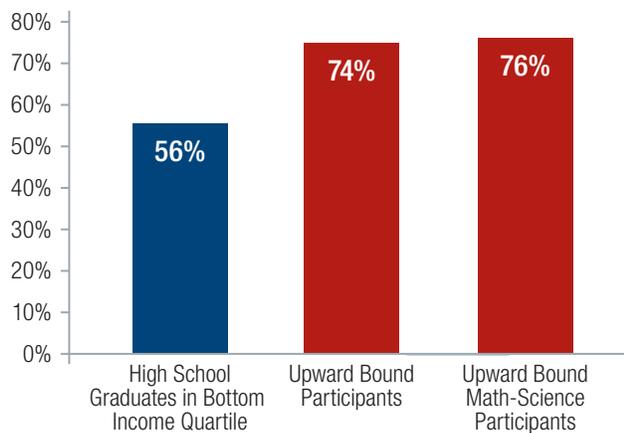


**Upward Bound (UB)** is an intensive intervention program that prepares students for higher education through various enrichment courses. Campus-based UB programs provide students instruction in literature, composition, mathematics, science, and foreign language during the school year and during a six-week residential component in the summer. UB also provides intensive mentoring and support for students as they prepare for college entrance exams and tackle admission applications, financial aid, and scholarship forms.

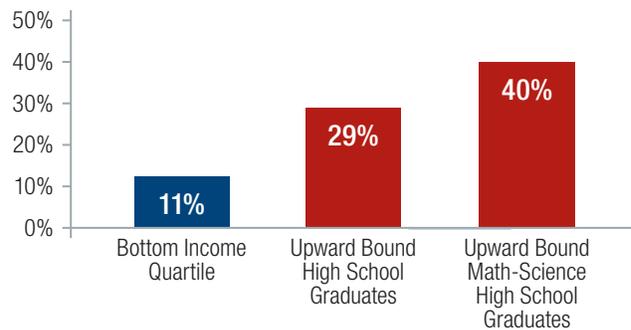
Using a model similar to the classic Upward Bound program, **Upward Bound Math-Science (UBMS)** addresses the need for specific instruction in the fields of math and science and encourages students to pursue postsecondary degrees and careers in disciplines like science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

For the high school class of 2022, 74% of Upward Bound and 76% of Upward Bound Math-Science participants enrolled immediately in college, compared to only 56% of high school graduates in the bottom income quartile. In 2022, 42.8% of Upward Bound participants and 45.2% of Upward Bound Math-Science high school graduates attained a bachelor's degree within 6 years of enrollment. A 2022 report indicated only 11% of students from the bottom income quartile had attained a bachelor's degree by age 24.<sup>3,4</sup>

**Postsecondary Enrollment Immediately After High School Graduation, Class of 2022**



**Degree Completion within 6 Years**



<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, Upward Bound, *Grantee-Level Performance Report*, Washington, D.C., 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Cahalan, M.W., Brunt, N., Vaughan III, T., Montenegro, E., Breen, S., Ruffin, E., & Perna, L.W. (2024). *Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States 2024: 50-Year Historical Trend Report*. Washington, DC: The Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) and Alliance for Higher Education and Democracy of the University of Pennsylvania (Penn AHEAD).

## College TRIO Programs



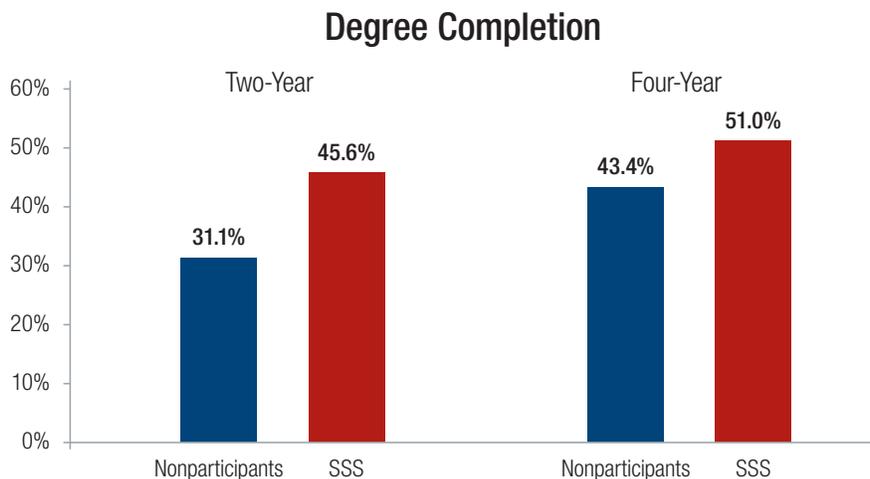
**Student Support Services (SSS)** is the largest and most expansive program promoting college persistence for low-income students, as it provides academic tutoring, personal counseling, and other supports necessary for such students to persist and ultimately graduate from college.

The U.S. Education Department (“ED” or “the Department”) released a study of the SSS programs in 2019. The study compared academic achievement of students who first joined SSS as college freshman in 2003-04 with a sample of matched nonparticipants with similar demographic criteria and high school achievement, including GPA, SAT, and GPA.<sup>5</sup> Key findings included the following:

### DEGREE COMPLETION

SSS students earned more degrees than matched nonparticipants:

- **Two-Year Institutions:** After four years of college, SSS students were **48% more likely** to complete an associate’s degree or certificate or transfer to a four-year institution.
- **Four-Year Institutions:** After six years of college, SSS students were **18% more likely** to complete a bachelor’s degree.



<sup>5</sup> Zeiser, K.L., Heuer, R., & Cominole, R. (2019). *Comparing Student Outcomes Between Student Support Services Participants and Nonparticipants in the 2004/09 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study*. Student Service Office of Postsecondary Education U.S. Department of Education. Calculations of percent increase were completed by Council for Opportunity in Education.

## College TRIO Programs (CONT.)

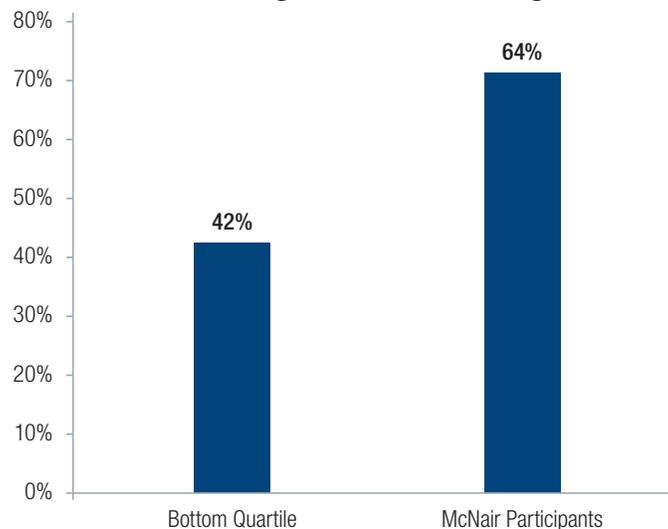


**The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program** not only helps low income, first-generation, and students underrepresented in doctoral education graduate from college, but also enables them to successfully pursue postgraduate study.

According to an analysis of performance data by the U.S. Department of Education, **64%** of McNair students who obtained bachelor's degrees during the 2017-2018 program year enrolled in postgraduate education within three years.<sup>6</sup> In comparison, only **42%** of students in the bottom quartile for family income had enrolled. In 2013-2014, McNair programs reported a graduate school persistence rate of **85.7%** among students who enrolled in 2012- 2013 a **6.3% increase** in postgraduate persistence rates of participants who first enrolled in 2011-12. Of McNair participants who graduated by 1993, **73%** enrolled in graduate school by 2004, compared to **41%** of other low income individuals who graduated by 1993.<sup>7</sup>

The McNair program is critical as it provides research opportunities and mentoring to low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented students in preparation for postgraduate study.

**Bachelor's Degree Recipients Enrolled in Post-Bacclaureate Studies by 3 Years After Attaining a Bachelor's Degree**



<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Education. (2022). *Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program*. Washington, D.C.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Department of Education, *Educational and Employment Outcomes of Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program Alumni*, Washington, D.C., 2008.

## TRIO Programs for Adult Learners

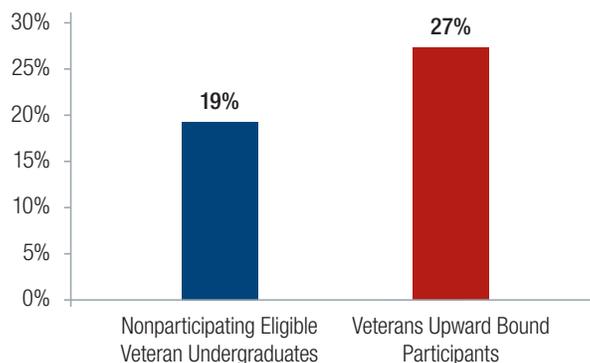


**Why we need Veterans Upward Bound.** Upon their return home from military service, many veterans feel disconnected and have difficulty integrating themselves back into their communities, let alone the classroom. This is particularly true for those veterans who lacked proper academic preparation prior to their military service. Indeed, many veterans initially turned to the military because they were ill-prepared for college. As a result, they approach academic re-entry with much trepidation. This is manifested in the low completion rates for recent veterans.

**Why Financial Aid Alone Is Insufficient.** Despite the generous financial aid offered through the Post-9/11 GI Bill and other federal programs, many veterans lack the academic tools and emotional support necessary to succeed. Many colleges report that returning veterans face numerous difficulties and often fail to successfully complete their degree programs. Veterans Upward Bound addresses these factors directly by creating a safe environment and camaraderie that fosters learning and advancement for these young veterans.

**Veterans Upward Bound has a strong record of success.** According to the National Association of Veterans Upward Bound Program Personnel, in 2015-2016, 74% of recent program graduates were enrolled in postsecondary education programs by the following year. In 2009, 27% of Veterans Upward Bound had attained a bachelor's degree or associate degree within six years of enrollment. Only 19% of nonparticipating eligible veteran undergraduates had attained a bachelor's degree or associate degree within six years of enrollment. Beyond the raw data, the preparation, testing, and counseling services provided by Veterans Upward Bound allows program graduates to move more efficiently through their postsecondary education programs.<sup>8</sup>

### Attained Bachelor's Degree or Associate Degree within Six Years of Enrollment



**Program Need.** In recent years, more and more young Americans have turned to the military due to financial necessity. As the conflicts overseas draw to a close, the need for supportive services for recent veterans will only continue to grow. With limited resources, Veterans Upward Bound can only serve about 2% of low-income veterans. It is our hope that Congress will capitalize on the experience of and expertise within Veterans Upward Bound and broaden the program's reach.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, Student Service, *Fast Facts Report for the Veterans Upward Bound Program*, Washington, D.C., 2020.

## TRIO Programs for Adult Learners (CONT.)

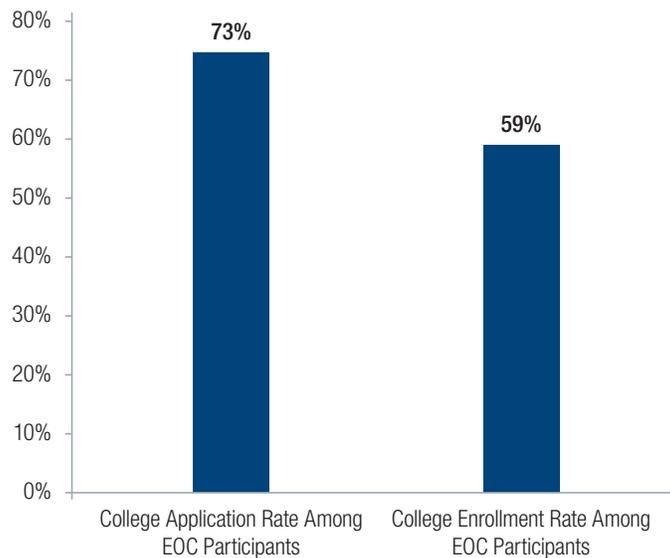


**Educational Opportunity Centers (EOCs)** target adult learners and prepare them to go back into the workforce by arming them with the educational supports necessary to succeed. EOCs—along with Veterans Upward Bound—are one of the few national initiatives that assist adults in identifying, enrolling in, and paying for college.

There is a critical need for EOC programs as more and more adults are enrolling in higher education programs.<sup>9</sup> For instance, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, in fall 2021, 21% of full-time undergraduates at 2-year public institutions were aged 25 years or older.<sup>10</sup>

These programs work! During the 2018-2019 program year, more than half (59%) of “college ready” EOC participants enrolled in institutions of higher learning; similarly, a recent assessment of EOC found that 73% of eligible participants (i.e., high school seniors, high school graduates, high school equivalency graduates, postsecondary dropouts or transfers, etc.) applied for college admission.<sup>11</sup>

### EOC Participant Outcomes



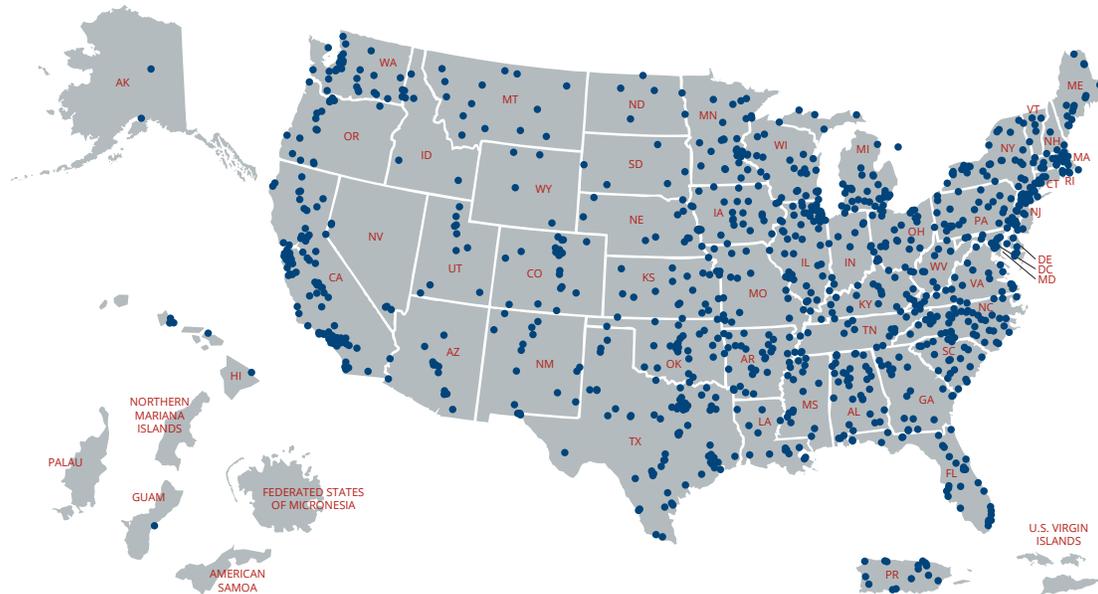
<sup>9</sup> Ross-Gordon, Jovita. “Research on Adult Learners: Supporting the Needs of a Student Population that Is No Longer Nontraditional.” *Peer Review*. 13.1 (2011).

<sup>10</sup> National Center for Education Statistics, *Characteristics of Postsecondary Students* (2023).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, Student Service. (2022). *Fast Facts Report for Educational Opportunity Centers Program: 2018-19*, Washington, D.C.

## TRIO PROGRAMS' REACH

**TRIO programs** provide academic tutoring, personal counseling, mentoring, financial guidance, and other supports necessary for educational access and retention. TRIO programs provide direct support services for students, and relevant training for directors and staff. Nearly a million low-income students and students with disabilities each year receive college access and retention services through TRIO programs each year. TRIO programs serve students in every U.S. State and several U.S. territories.



## QUICK TRIO FACTS

### PRE-COLLEGIATE

- **Talent Search (TS)** – Promotes early college awareness and preparation. Talent Search students are **22% more likely** to enroll in college than students in the bottom income quartile nationally.
- **Upward Bound (UB)** – Provides intense college preparation and academic enrichment services. Upward Bound students are **more than 2X as likely** to earn a bachelor's degree within 6 years of starting college than students in the lowest income quartile.
- **Upward Bound Math-Science (UBMS)** – Increases youth exposure to STEM fields. Upward Bound Math-Science students are **more than 2X as likely** to earn a bachelor's degree within 6 years of starting college than students in the lowest income quartile.

### COLLEGE

- **Student Support Services (SSS)** – Boosts undergraduate student retention and graduation rates. Student Support Services students were **47% more likely** to complete a 2-year degree or transfer and **18% more likely** to complete a bachelor's degree than a matched comparison group of nonparticipants, according to the Department of Education's 2019 rigorous evaluation.
- **Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair)** – Increases the STEM/Ph.D. pipeline. Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement students are **64% more likely** to enroll in graduate school than college graduates in the bottom income quartile.

### ADULT LEARNERS

- **Veterans Upward Bound (VUB)** – Supports veteran postsecondary enrollment. Veterans Upward Bound students are **42% more likely** than other low-income veterans to earn a bachelor's degree or associate degree in six years.
- **Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC)** – Supports adult postsecondary enrollment. Educational Opportunity Center participants in 2018-19 found that 58.6% of "college-ready" students were enrolled in institutions of higher learning, and **72.5% of eligible EOC participants applied to college.**