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Veterans Upward Bound: A Federally Funded TRIO Program, Preparing Veterans for College at UMass Boston since 1973

Veterans Upward Bound Program, University of Massachusetts Boston

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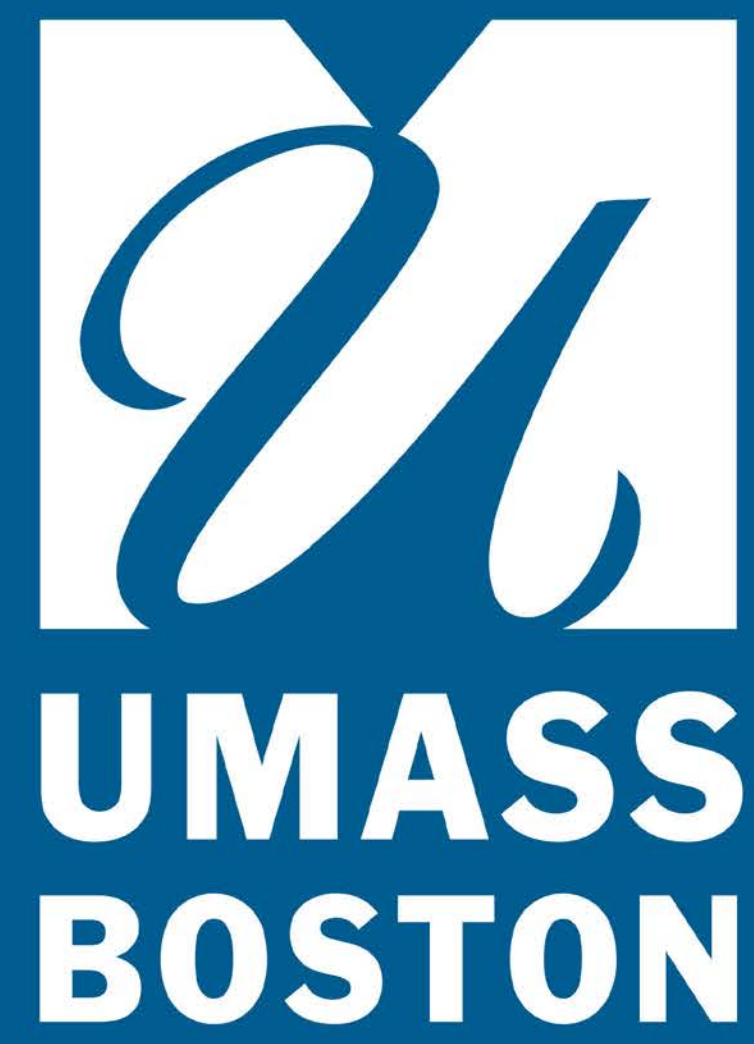


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Veterans Upward Bound

A Federally Funded TRIO Program

Preparing Veterans for College at UMass Boston since 1973

Summary

The Veterans Upward Bound Program at the University of Massachusetts Boston provides a unique opportunity for men and women veterans of all ages to acquire the academic skills required for entry into higher education and/or to acquire the equivalent of a high school diploma.

Goals and Objectives

1. To provide eligible veterans with classroom instruction, tutoring, and other academic services that allow the student to develop the necessary skills required to enter into, and to succeed in, programs of post-secondary education.
2. To provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas in order to improve veterans' education opportunities and services, maintain a high quality of services, and continue professional development of all staff.
3. To form coalitions with organizations whose purpose is similar to Veterans Upward Bound.
4. To encourage research and publication of topics related to veterans' education.

Results/Impacts

- Since 2000, 236 Veterans Upward Bound graduates have completed programs of post-secondary education.
- Veterans Upward Bound students develop the necessary skills needed in order to enter into and succeed in programs of post-secondary education.
- Since 2006, 14 VUB graduates who have attended UMass Boston have become tutors in the Veterans Upward Bound Program. Three out of the 14 have become instructors in the program.



Approaches and Methods

- Academic instruction in: Math, English, Foreign Language, Science, Computer Skills, and Study Skills.
- Veterans-only classrooms
- Skilled, experienced instructors
- Career counseling
- Academic advice and assistance
- Tutorial assistance in all subjects
- Exposure to cultural events

Intra-university Partnership

Beginning in Spring 2014, Veterans Upward Bound partnered with UMass Boston's Creative Writing MFA program to create a new administrative assistantship position. Each semester, a qualified Master of Fine Arts candidate serves as a teaching assistant for students enrolled in VUB's English courses and workshops.

Outcomes of Partnership

The Veterans Upward Bound program offers Master of Fine Arts candidates the opportunity to gain classroom experience, serving as both role models and academic mentors to non-traditional students.

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