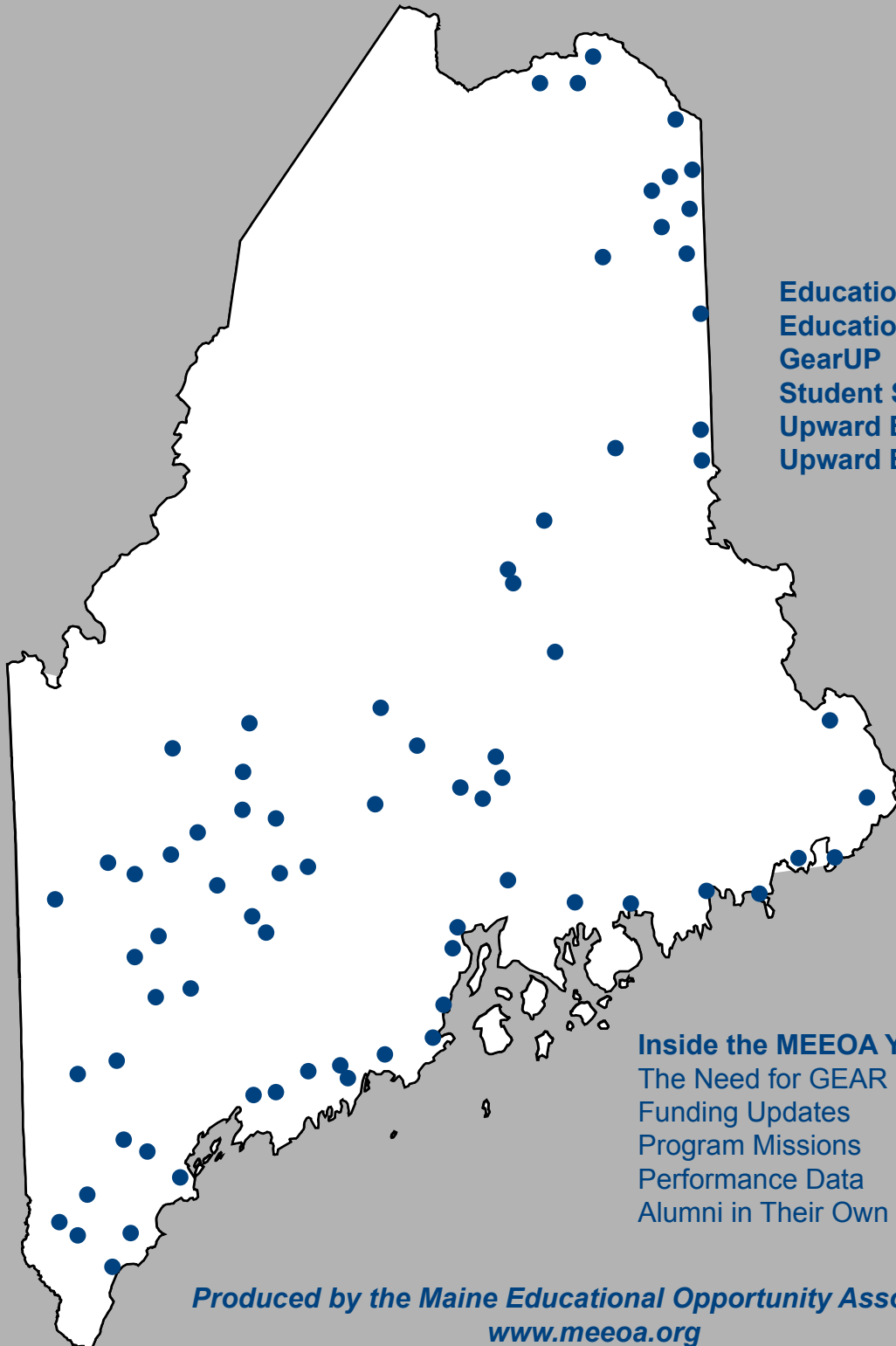


# MEEOA Yearbook

**Inside GEAR UP and TRIO in Maine  
2015 - 2016**

Providing College Access and Retention Services  
to over 6,300 Maine Adults and Youth



**Educational Opportunity Center  
Educational Talent Search  
GearUP  
Student Support Services  
Upward Bound  
Upward Bound Math-Science**

**Inside the MEEOA Yearbook**  
The Need for GEAR UP and TRIO in Maine  
Funding Updates  
Program Missions  
Performance Data  
Alumni in Their Own Words

*Produced by the Maine Educational Opportunity Association*  
[www.meeoa.org](http://www.meeoa.org)

# Need for GEAR UP and TRIO

## Education that Works

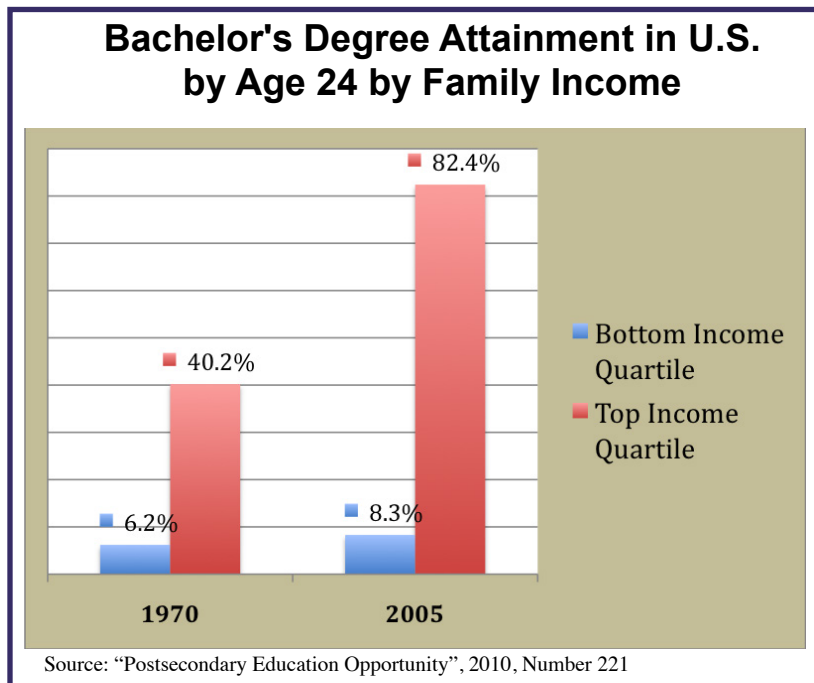
The decreased demand for traditional Maine jobs such as logging, shoe manufacturing, fishing, and farming is being replaced by jobs that demand higher levels of education. For the many Maine residents living in severe poverty, activities that allow them to prepare for this changing society are crucial. Maine's TRIO and GearUP programs provide such activities and preparation.

Maine's GEAR UP and TRIO programs work with students across the state to prepare them for joining the Maine workforce. Youth programs include the Educational Talent Search (grades 6-12), GEAR UP (grades 7-12), and Upward Bound (grades 9-12). Adult programs include the Educational Opportunity Center (adults aged 19 and over) and Student Support Services (college students at sponsoring postsecondary institutions.)

By removing the barriers faced by families with low-income and low educational attainment, TRIO programs in Maine help break the cycle of poverty. Increasing the educational attainment of this population not only strengthens Maine's educated workforce, but it also reduces dependence on welfare systems. Thus, Maine's GEAR UP and TRIO programs are a vital part of economic growth in Maine.

**“Just 25 percent of Maine adults ages 25 to 64 hold bachelor’s degrees, compared with 35 percent of all New Englanders. In some rural Maine counties, only 15 percent of working-age adults hold four-year degrees.”**

*(Retrieved 2/13/2014 from College for ME, The Case for College, [http://www.collegeforme/case\\_for\\_college.html](http://www.collegeforme/case_for_college.html))*



## Why GEAR UP and TRIO?

*GEAR UP and TRIO programs work to break the cycle of poverty by enabling low-income, first generation students to access and succeed in postsecondary education.*

For more information visit :  
[www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/index.html)  
[www2.ed.gov/programs/gearup/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/gearup/index.html)

# Education That Works

## History

Collectively, these college access programs are referred to as “Federal TRIO Programs.” Upward Bound was the first to be created in 1964 by the Economic Opportunity Act. Educational Talent Search was established by the Higher Education Act of 1965 and a 1968 Amendment added Student Support Services. Subsequent Amendments in 1972, 1976, 1986 and 1990 added Educational Opportunity Centers, The Training Program for Special Programs Staff and Leadership Personnel, the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement; and Upward Bound Math-Science -- but the “TRIO” name continued. The legislative requirements for the TRIO programs can be found in the Higher Educational Act of 1965, as amended, Title IV, Subpart 4.

## Purpose

The primary purpose of TRIO programs is to prepare underserved persons for successful entry into, retention in, and completion of postsecondary education. These programs identify low income and potential first generation college students and provide them with encouragement, support, and assistance to help them achieve their educational goals.

## Service

TRIO services are designed to improve academic performance, increase student motivation, and facilitate transitions from one level of education to the next.



*“Some of my favorite things about TRIO include having an extra academic advisor, free printing, and all the special events, activities, and stress busters they plan. They are really there to support you through college! I probably could not have achieved as much as I have during my college career without them - they’re like a second family.”*

*Blair Pelletier  
UMFK Class of 2013*

# MEEOA President Update

Dear Friends and Supporters of Educational Opportunity,

As a new year begins, it allows us time to reflect on the power in the work we do, but more importantly to celebrate the success of our students and recognize the impact we have on Maine communities.

In Maine, we are fortunate to have 26 federally funded GEAR UP and TRIO programs. In 2015, Maine was fortunate to gain three new Student Support Services programs at Thomas College, Eastern Maine Community College and Southern Maine Community College. Access to the critical, life-changing services provided by TRIO and GEAR UP not only increases opportunities for Maine students to access higher education, but allows those who graduate to nurture the skills needed to compete in today's economy.

In a speech, President Obama shared, “In a single generation we have fallen from first place to 12th place in college graduation rates.” He went on to highlight, “The way to move forward is to put education first.” This is why TRIO and GEAR UP Programs are necessary and our work so important. 2016 will require our continued dedication to guiding our students toward higher educational opportunities.

Please take the time to learn more about the work we do and read about the success of our students. We welcome your continued support of all educational opportunities programming for Maine students.

Teri Morse, President  
2016, Maine Educational Opportunity Association

# Maine's TRIO Programs

TRIO Program:	Participant Eligibility	Applicant / Funding Process
<b>Educational Opportunity Center</b>	At least two-thirds of all participants must be low income and potential first generation college students.  Serves individuals age 19 or above who have expressed an interest in pursuing postsecondary education and are in need of project services. If services of Educational Talent Search are not available in target area, persons under 19 may be served.	Programs are funded through the US Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education  Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition will be completed in spring 2016.
<b>Educational Talent Search</b>	Serves students in selected target area between the ages of 11 and 27 who have completed at least five years of elementary education.	Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition was completed in winter 2016. The next expected competition is in 2021.
<b>Student Support Services</b>	Serves students who are enrolled/ accepted in a sponsoring postsecondary institution, have an established need for academic assistance and are low income, first generation, and/or physically disabled .	Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition was completed in 2015. The next competition is expected in 2020.
<b>Upward Bound</b>	Serves students in selected target area between 13 and 19 who have completed 8th grade, are planning to go to college and need services to progress successfully to postsecondary program.	Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition was completed in Summer 2012. The next expected competition is in 2016-17.
<b>Upward Bound Math-Science</b>	Serves students between 13 and 19, in 9th or 10th grade, who are planning to go to college, have an interest in and aptitude for careers in math and science, and need the services in order to fulfill their goals.	Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition was completed in Summer 2012. The next expected competition is in 2016-17.

## Notable results from Recent Grant Competitions

**SSS competition in 2015** - All existing SSS grants in Maine were refunded and three new grants were funded, at Eastern Maine Community College, Southern Maine Community College, and Thomas College.

**GearUP competition in 2014** - Syntiro Corporation received a GearUP grant in partnership with the University of Maine Farmington, serving 27 school districts.

**ETS competition in 2016** - The ETS competition in 2016 closed February 4th. Award notices are expected in the summer of 2016.

**EOC competition in 2016** - The EOC competition closes April 4th. Award notices are expected in the summer of 2016.

**UB Competition in 2012** - Six of seven existing grants were refunded and one new grant was funded at the University of Maine Farmington. The grant at the University of Maine did not receive funding.

**UBMS competition in 2012** - The existing grant at the University of Maine was refunded.

# TRIO Projects in Maine

<b>Program Location</b>	<b># Students Served</b>	<b>\$ Award</b>
<b>Educational Opportunity Center</b>		
University of Maine	<u>2,269</u>	<u>\$680,609</u>
<b>Educational Talent Search</b>		
University of Maine	1,111	\$510,255
University of Maine at Presque Isle	500	\$230,000
2 Educational Talent Search Projects	<u>1,611</u>	<u>\$740,255</u>
<b>Student Support Services</b>		
Central Maine Community College	175	\$281,511
Eastern Maine Community College	150	\$220,000
Kennebec Valley Community College	180	\$226,300
Northern Maine Community College	175	\$247,583
Southern Maine Community College	140	\$220,000
Thomas College	140	\$218,000
University of Maine	400	\$561,225
University of Maine at Augusta	360	\$484,682
University of Maine at Farmington	180	\$284,753
University of Maine at Fort Kent	160	\$288,181
University of Maine at Presque Isle	180	\$301,355
University of Southern Maine	140	\$220,000
Washington County Community College	160	\$244,677
York County Community College	175	\$231,103
14 Student Support Services Projects	<u>2,715</u>	<u>\$4,087,824</u>
<b>Upward Bound</b>		
Bowdoin College	107	\$444,224
University of Maine at Farmington (2 separate projects)	139	\$603,456
University of Maine at Presque Isle (2 separate projects)	129	\$605,500
University of Southern Maine (2 separate projects)	<u>127</u>	<u>\$550,380</u>
7 Upward Bound Projects	502	\$2,203,560
<b>Upward Bound Math-Science</b>		
University of Maine	<u>67</u>	<u>\$297,034</u>

**25 TRIO Projects in Maine**

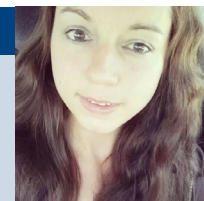
**7,164  
Participants  
Funded to Serve**

**\$8,009,282  
Total Federal  
TRIO Funding**

# Educational Opportunity Center

**Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) programs provide assistance and information to adults who seek to enter or re-enter a program of postsecondary education.**

## Amanda



I had gone beyond my original goal to graduate from the University of Maine at Augusta with an AS in Mental Health and Human Services. MEOC was such an important part of my connection to my college career. Marty Kelley was the reason I felt I could pursue my goals because she believed in my abilities. I went on to pursue a BA in Mental Health when I didn't even think in the beginning I would be able to make it two years! MEOC not only helped me get connected with the right college and program, but also assisted in the FAFSA process each year.

In January 2015, Amanda was a recipient of the Maine Educational Opportunity Association's Rising Star Award.

***"It is very important to me that people know about MEOC. It is a valuable resource to help people achieve their educational goals like I did!"***

## Funding and Performance

### Current Funding for Maine

# of Awards	1
# of Participants	2,269
Grant Award	\$680,609
Cost per Participant	\$300

### National Funding

\$46.6 Million was awarded in FY 2015

Number of Awards	126
Total # of Students Served	189,733
Average Awards	\$369,892
Average # of Participants	1,506
Cost per Participant	\$246

### Performance Outcomes

Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in November 2014.

#### In 2015:

- 645 Maine Educational Opportunity Center participants enrolled in college.
- MEOC assisted 1,196 participants in applying for their FAFSA.

#### Since 1991 the Maine Educational Opportunity Center

- Placed more than 15,600 adults in college.
- Assisted more than 44,750 Maine adults in exploring college and career options.

### Funding Cycle

The EOC grant competition is currently underway, with grants due April 4, 2016. Award notifications are expected in Summer 2016.

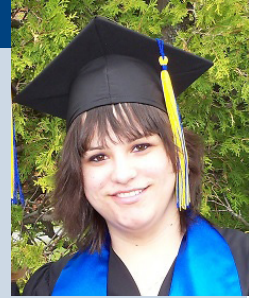
# Educational Talent Search

The Educational Talent Search (ETS) program identifies at risk youth who have the desire and potential for success in postsecondary education. The primary goal of ETS is to successfully encourage participants to enroll in postsecondary education.

**“I am thankful for being a participant in the Talent Search program during my high school years, it helped me to really realize that becoming an educator was the right path for me.”**

## Julie

I am a 2010 graduate from the University of Maine at Presque Isle with a Bachelors in Elementary Education and a minor in Special Education. I truly enjoyed my schooling there as well as the courses I was able to take, it was a very friendly campus and a memorable experience. Education has always been a love and passion of mine so once I completed my Bachelors degree, and taking a year off, I began working on my Masters degree in Elementary Education: Curriculum, Evaluation and Assessment through the University of Maine at Orono online. I am currently halfway through this degree and plan on completing it soon, I felt that there was so much more I could learn to help my future students. I am currently an Ed tech III and have been in this and other similar positions for the last 5 years which has allowed me to work with many different students in many different grades and classrooms. I have to say that I am thankful for being a participant in the Talent Search program during my high school years, it helped me to really realize that becoming an educator was the right path for me and I am grateful to have followed this dream.



## Funding and Performance

### Current Funding for Maine 740,255 was awarded in FY 2015

# of Awards	2
Total # of Participants	1,611
Average Grant Award	\$370,128
Average # of Participants	806
Average Cost per Participant	\$460

### National Funding \$134.5 Million was awarded in FY 2015

Number of Awards	449
Total # of Students Served	310,199
Average Awards	\$299,600
Average # of Participants	691
Cost per Participant	\$434

### Performance Outcomes

Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in November 2015.

#### In 2015:

- 83% of ETS seniors graduated having completed a rigorous program of study.
- 84% of ETS seniors enrolled in postsecondary education.

Since 1977 Maine Educational Talent Search programs have assisted more than 10,350 Maine Youth enroll in college.

### Funding Cycle

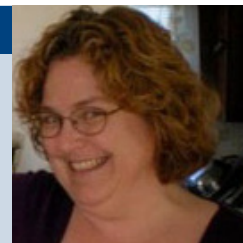
The ETS grant competition is currently underway, with grants due February 4, 2016. Award notifications are expected in Summer 2016.

# Student Support Services

**The Student Support Services (SSS) Program provides supportive services to disadvantaged college students to enhance their potential for successfully completing the education program in which they are enrolled and to facilitate their transition to the next level of higher education.**

## Joline

I did not attend college after high school because it was not that important in my family. We were working class with no formal education. My husband was the one who, after years of convincing, encouraged me to attend.



My college journey began at Central Maine Community College in 2005. I was scared to death. The TRIO/SSS program and staff offered the support I needed. It was a great place to meet other individuals my age who were also first generation. I graduated with Honors in 2008 and went on to USM, graduating Magna Cum Laude with a B.A. in Social and Behavioral Sciences. I am now pursuing a Masters in Adult & Higher Education and work as a graduate assistant in the Professional Education Leadership Department at USM.

*“TRIO/SSS and its dedicated staff helped me begin my educational path and gave me the encouragement I needed along the way to keep going.”*

## Funding and Performance

### Current Funding for Maine \$4.09 Million was awarded in FY2015

# of Awards	14
# of Participants	2,715
Average Award	\$291,987
Average # of Participants	194
Cost per Participant	\$1,506

### National Funding \$297.26 Million was awarded in FY 2015

Number of Awards	1,081
Total # of Students Served	205,263
Average Awards	\$274,983
Average # of Participants	190
Cost per Participant	\$1,448

### Performance Outcomes

Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in Fall 2015.

### In 2015, based on surveyed SSS programs:

- 90% of Maine Student Support Service Participants were in Academic Good Standing.
- 84% of Maine Student Support Service Participants graduated or persisted to the next year.

### Funding Cycle

The last SSS grant competition was held in 2015. At the time, the existing eleven SSS programs were refunded and three new program were awarded, at: Eastern Maine Community College, Southern Maine Community College, and Thomas College. The next SSS competition is anticipated in 2020.



# Upward Bound

**Upward Bound (UB) Programs generate skills and motivation necessary for success in education beyond high school. Participants are currently enrolled in high school, low income and/or potential first generation, and willing to prepare themselves for entry into postsecondary education.**

*“A life-changing transformational metamorphosis. This aptly depicts my interaction with the University of Maine Upward Bound TRIO program.”*

## Bill

Tenacious. Steadfast. Unwavering in support. This aptly depicts my interaction with the Upward Bound TRIO program staff. Their guidance helped to establish and place me firmly on a college-bound trajectory.

The Upward Bound TRIO program enabled me to break the cycle and it is through the TRIO programs that I have come to realize – I can help create the world of tomorrow. Today.

The Upward Bound TRIO program started with a malleable individual who lacked confidence in ability and financial resources. With logical impartations and persuasive (academic) mentoring, helped me to deduce that big conclusions are a result of smaller impartations.

The Upward Bound coordinators, staff, and administration heralded this mantra with aplomb. And their commitment created a metamorphosis in the life of a malleable young man – a man who endeavors to inspire and believe that we can make a difference.



## Funding and Performance

### Current Funding for Maine

\$2.2 million was awarded in FY 2015

# of Awards	7
Average Awards	\$314,794
Average # of Participants	72
Average Cost per Participant	\$4,390

### National Funding

\$263.41 Million was awarded in FY 2015

Number of Awards	813
Total # of Students Served	61,361
Average Awards	\$324,001
Average # of Participants	75
Cost per Participant	\$4,293

### Performance Outcomes

Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in Fall 2015.

#### In 2014:

- Maine Upward Bound programs served 504 eligible students.
- 82.6% of Maine Upward Bound students enrolled in post-secondary education.
- 86.5% of Maine Upward Bound students held a GPA of 2.5 or greater.

### Funding Cycle

The last UB grant competition was held in Winter 2012. At the time, Maine was awarded 7 UB programs, one new and six renewals. There was also one program that did not receive renewal funding. The next competition is expected in 2016-17.

# Upward Bound Math-Science

**Upward Bound Math-Science strengthens the math and science education of participating students, assists them in demonstrating competency and encourages them to pursue postsecondary degrees in math and science fields.**

**“Being a part of Upward Bound Math Science program helped me to improve in these subjects and go on to a related career.”**

## Christina

Math and science were never my strong suits in school. When I started UBMS, I was slightly intimidated and fearful that I would lag behind. Being a part of Upward Bound Math & Science program helped me to improve in these subjects and go on to a related career. The summer projects were hands on and divided into small groups, which taught me to not only be able to work constructively with others but also to use science in a different way than we did in school. We were actually taking real life issues and coming up with solutions. I felt like our research could actually make a difference, and the hands on approach made it easier to understand. The individual research projects were ultimately my favorite. Coming up with a science experiment that interested me and working one on one with a mentor helped me to gain confidence in my abilities.



The experience that UBMS provided helped me to realize that not only was college possible, but being in the medical field would be a way for me to continue making a real life difference while using a hands on approach. After UBMS, I went on to earn my Bachelors of Science in Nursing from UMaine. I graduated in 2009, and have been working as a Registered Nurse in the acute care setting since then. I have worked in a variety of areas including medical, surgical, cardiac, and even postpartum care. I attribute my success in college and in my career to the valuable lessons I learned while at Upward Bound.

## Funding and Performance

### Current Funding for Maine

# of Awards	1
# of Participants	67
Grant Award	\$297,034
Cost per Participant	\$4,433

### National Funding

\$43.1 Million was awarded in FY 2014

Number of Awards	162
Total # of Students Served	10,034
Average Awards	\$265,945
Average # of Participants	62
Cost per Participant	\$4,294

### Performance Outcomes

Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in December 2014.

#### In 2014:

- 100% of Maine Upward Bound Math-Science students were promoted to the next grade level or graduated.
- 71% of Maine Upward Bound Math-Science students enrolled in PSE.

### Funding Cycle

The last UBMS grant competition was held in Summer 2012. At the time, Maine's existing UBMS was refunded. The next competition is expected in 2016.

# Maine Educational Opportunity Association

## Member Programs

### **Bowdoin College**

Upward Bound

Project Director: Bridget Mullen, [bmullen@bowdoin.edu](mailto:bmullen@bowdoin.edu)  
[http://academic.bowdoin.edu/upward\\_bound/](http://academic.bowdoin.edu/upward_bound/)

### **Central Maine Community College**

Project Director: Terry Charlton, [tcharlton@cmcc.edu](mailto:tcharlton@cmcc.edu)  
<http://www.cmcc.edu/AcademicsRegistration/ACADEMIC-CASSISTANCE/TRIOStudentSupportServices.aspx#VKLO9P8rc>

### **Eastern Maine Community College**

Student Support Services

Project Director: Rusty Brown, [rbrown@emcc.edu](mailto:rbrown@emcc.edu)  
<http://www.emcc.edu/academics/trio/>

### **Kennebec Valley Community College**

Student Support Services

Project Director: Lisa Black, [lblack@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:lblack@kvcc.me.edu)  
<http://www.kvcc.me.edu/Trio/>

### **Northern Maine Community College**

Student Support Services

Project Director: Tammy Nelson, [tnelson@nmcc.edu](mailto:tnelson@nmcc.edu)

### **Southern Maine Community College**

Student Support Services

Executive Director: Vincent Kloskowski, [vkloskowski@smccME.edu](mailto:vkloskowski@smccME.edu)  
<http://www.smccme.edu/admissions/future-students/trio.html>

### **Thomas College**

Student Support Services

Project Director: Amanda Favreau, [tridir@thomas.edu](mailto:tridir@thomas.edu)  
<http://www.thomas.edu/inside/student-resources/learning-resources/sss-wave/>

### **University of Maine**

Educational Opportunity Center

Educational Talent Search

Project Director: Karen Keim, [kkeim@maine.edu](mailto:kkeim@maine.edu)  
<http://meoc.maine.edu>  
<http://mets.maine.edu>

Student Support Services

Project Director: Eric Chapman, [eric.chapman@umit.umaine.edu](mailto:eric.chapman@umit.umaine.edu)  
<http://www.umaine.edu/sss/>

Upward Bound Regional Math-Science

Project Director: Rebecca Colannino, [becky.colannino@umit.maine.edu](mailto:becky.colannino@umit.maine.edu)  
<http://www.umaine.edu/ub/>

### **University of Maine Augusta**

Student Support Services

Cornerstone Program

Project Director: Dori Fellman, [dorrea.fellman@maine.edu](mailto:dorrea.fellman@maine.edu)  
<http://www.uma.maine.edu/cornerstone.html>

### **University of Maine Farmington**

Student Support Services

Upward Bound

Project Director: Lynn Ploof-Davis, [lynnp@maine.edu](mailto:lynnp@maine.edu)  
<http://brg.umf.maine.edu/>  
<http://upwardbound.umf.maine.edu/>

GEAR UP

Project Director: Kathryn Markovchick, [kathryn@syntiro.org](mailto:kathryn@syntiro.org)  
[www.gearupme.org](http://www.gearupme.org)

### **University of Maine Fort Kent**

Student Support Services

Project Director: Lena Michaud, [lmichaud@maine.edu](mailto:lmichaud@maine.edu)  
<http://www.umfk.maine.edu/acserv/default.cfm?ref=2>

### **University of Maine Presque Isle**

Student Support Services

Project Director: Mary Kate Barbosa, [mary.barbosa@umpi.edu](mailto:mary.barbosa@umpi.edu)  
<http://www.umpi.edu/current-students/sss>

Talent Search

Upward Bound

Project Director: Darylen Cote, [darylen.cote@umpi.edu](mailto:darylen.cote@umpi.edu)  
<http://www.umpi.edu/prospective-students/upward-bound>

### **University of Southern Maine**

Student Support Services

Upward Bound

Project Director: Laurie Davis, [ljdavis@usm.maine.edu](mailto:ljdavis@usm.maine.edu)  
<http://www.usm.maine.edu/upwardbound/>  
<https://usm.maine.edu/trioprograms/trio-student-support-services>

### **Washington County Community College**

Student Support Services

Project Director: Gayle Moholland, [gmoholland@wccc.me.edu](mailto:gmoholland@wccc.me.edu)  
[http://www.wccc.me.edu/index.php?option=com\\_k2&view=item&layout=item&id=10&itemid=381](http://www.wccc.me.edu/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&layout=item&id=10&itemid=381)

### **York County Community College**

Student Support Services

Project Director: Jane Kimball Foley, [yjfoley@yccc.edu](mailto:yjfoley@yccc.edu)  
<http://www.yccc.edu/StudentResources/AcademicAssistance/NorthStarTRIO>

# 2015-2016 Executive Committee

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[www.meeoa.org](http://www.meeoa.org); Twitter: @meeoa\_online

**For more information on TRIO in New England:**

[www.neoaonline.org](http://www.neoaonline.org); Twitter: @neoa\_online

**For more information on TRIO Nationally:**

[www.coenet.us](http://www.coenet.us); Twitter: @COEtalk

*This publication has been made possible through the generous support of the  
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