



Upward Bound is a college preparatory program hosted at 816 colleges and universities nationwide, established as part of the Lyndon B. Johnson Great Society programs. The program was designed to help students overcome socio-economic barriers to higher education. At ESU, these services target low-income and first-generation students from Lehigh, Northampton and Monroe Counties. Upward Bound, the oldest of a series of programs known as TRIO programs, was created as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty" initiative. Specific legislation for the program was initially authorized under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and later moved to be included under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Upward Bound, TRIO Programs were founded on the principle: go into the local community, invest in students at the grassroots level and give them the skills to stand on their own in college/workforce.

ESU Upward Bound has joined the Council for Opportunity in Education in their national campaign of the 50th Anniversary called 100 Days, 100 Celebrations. This is a campaign that envisions 100 events at institutions, campuses, and on social media across the United States. The 50th Anniversary of Upward Bound is an occasion for Upward Bound projects to share with their institutions and communities the valuable contributions that Upward Bound has made in the lives of low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities.

At East Stroudsburg University, Upward Bound has been providing opportunity for college access and success for 40 years and continues to help students to thrive in high school and college. ESU will be celebrating this anniversary event with educational and community leaders, faculty, alumni, and students to commemorate the birth of the Upward Bound programs and the vision of equal opportunity in post-secondary education.