



UTEP UPWARD BOUND MATH SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

2024-2025

UBMS: A YEAR IN REVIEW

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) Upward Bound Math Science (UBMS) program has now completed its third year working with low-income, first-generation college-bound high school students to further cultivate their interest in math and science, as well as provide the necessary support to prepare students to pursue and achieve postsecondary degrees in those subjects. Read on for a recap on the many successes and strides made by our students during the 2024-25 school year.

UBMS SUCCESSES-2025 GRADS

UBMS was honored and proud to have its first year of graduating seniors from all three served target schools. 16 students from Fabens, San Elizario, and Tornillo High Schools received their high school diploma and were celebrated by the Upward Bound family of programs in May 2025 with a special UB/UBMS Senior Celebration.

UBMS SCHOLARSHIPS

- Andrea Gonzalez-Solis, San Elizario HS
\$4,000
- Anette Modesto, San Elizario HS
\$16,000
- Elizabeth Martinez, San Elizario HS
\$58,044
- Mariana Morales, San Elizario HS
\$8,000
- Santiago Cano, San Elizario HS
\$8,000



UBMS BY THE NUMBERS

The UBMS program currently serves 60 students from three different schools/school districts:

- Fabens: 10
- San Elizario: 36
- Tornillo: 14

UBMS ACTIVITIES RECAP

UBMS Academic Year programming challenged students to think critically and creatively via workshops that ran from Fall 2024 through Spring 2025. From Artificial Intelligence (AI) Programming to Engineering Music workshops, to program staples like our Scholarship Writing & Financial Aid workshops, Career Conference and UB-Grateful SEL Saturday, a wide variety of services were offered.

During our six-week **Summer Program**, students participated in courses and workshops designed to assist them with preparation for their upcoming math and science courses, learning more about the Italian language, history on the border, crafting scholarship applications and immersing themselves in various fields of math and science, to include STEM Engineering and Medical, Forensic, Environmental & Computer Science.



UBMS FIRSTS

Held in conjunction with our sister program, Upward Bound, four UBMS rising seniors from the class of 2026 were given the unique opportunity to stay on the UTEP campus and participate in a week's worth of workshops and college preparation and adjustment activities as part of our first Summer Residential Program. Activities included hearing from a variety of guest speakers, enjoying recreational activities, as well as immersion in scholarship writing, social media for success, cybersecurity and life skills courses.

Another notable milestone for the UTEP UBMS program was accomplished this year with our very first UBMS Summer Bridge Program student – Santiago Cano, San Elizario HS Class of 2025 graduate. The UBMS Summer Bridge Program seeks to offer added support to graduating seniors in the program in various forms, to include advising, college adjustment counseling and workshops, and financial aid support for UTEP summer course tuition.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

The Upward Bound Math Science program is proud to work with community partners to help expose students to various careers in the areas of math and science. Notable collaborations this year included:

- The University of Texas at El Paso School of Pharmacy & School of Pharmacy Student Council workshop and presentation
- Lunch and Learn presentation series guests, Dr. Ascencion Mena & Dr. David Baptiste



GIVING BACK: UB IN THE COMMUNITY

UBMS continued efforts to cultivate an appreciation of community and a culture of service in our program participants by offering various volunteer opportunities throughout the year, which included:

El Pasoans Fighting Hunger, La Posada, Trunk or Treat, The Reynolds Home, Rescue Runners of El Paso, and Poppas Swim Meet



ON THE ROAD AGAIN: UBMS COLLEGE VISIT TOURS

Program participants were exposed to a wide variety of college campus visits this school year, meeting our program goal of preparing our students for college by offering immersive college experiences. During 2024-25, UBMS students were able to visit the following college/university campuses:

- The University of Texas at El Paso – Orange and Blue Day event
- New Mexico State University – Aggie Experience event
- University of New Mexico - Albuquerque
- The University of Texas at Arlington
- The University of Arizona at Tucson
- Arizona State University

