1. Executive Summary

The Loyola University New Orleans Upward Bound Program is a pre-college program designed to generate in its participants the skills and motivation necessary to persist in completing a program of secondary education and to succeed in a program of postsecondary education. Currently, the program is funded to serve 83 participants from four Westbank Jefferson Parish high schools: Helen Cox, John Ehret, L.W. Higgins, and West Jefferson High.

The Upward Bound Program is assessed annually by the U.S. Department of Education through an Annual Performance Report (APR). The APR measures the program’s success in meeting its approved four standardized program objectives. Through this assessment, detailed information is provided on prior year and current participants. The program has successfully met or exceeded each of the four standardized objectives.

During the 09-10 reporting period, the program served 89 (107%) participants. During the 10-11 reporting year, the program administration implemented new initiatives to maintain participant retention and enhance service delivery to program participants such as: partnering with Kaplan Test Prep to provide intense ACT Prep classes to program participants, and offering SAT fee waivers to junior and senior participants. The program is currently serving 83 participants (100%). The program will evaluate service delivery to participants after completing the 2010-2011 APR to the U.S. Department of Education in November 2011.
2. **Identification of the Unit**

2.1 Loyola University New Orleans Upward Bound Program

The Upward Bound Program is a federally funded pre-college program designed to generate in its participants the skills and motivation necessary to persist in completing a program of secondary education and to enter and succeed in a program of postsecondary education.

2.2 The Loyola University Upward Bound Program is one of eight federally funded TRIO programs which were funded under Title IV of the Higher Education Act. The Upward Bound Program is a year-round academic program which provides supplemental instruction and college preparation to 83 students at 4 Jefferson Parish High Schools: Helen Cox, John Ehret, L.W. Higgins, and West Jefferson High. The program consists of three (3) components: a six-week summer component, a bridge component, and an academic year component. The six-week summer component prepares participants for the upcoming academic year and it gives participants a head-start on the upcoming academic year. The bridge component serves as a transition from high school to college for recent high school graduates the summer immediately following graduation. The academic component provides tutoring and supplemental instruction for participants during Saturday classes.

2.2.1 Headcounts

The Upward Bound Program employed 11 part-time staff which included student workers, student assistants, program counselor, and instructors. During the same period, the program employed the following three (2) full-time staff positions: Director and Assistant Director.

2.2.2 Headcount is not applicable to the program.

2.2.3 Headcount and student credit hours are not applicable to the program.

2.2.4 Headcount and student credit hours are not applicable to the program.

2.2.5 Retention rate of full-time degree-seeking students by program is not applicable to the program.

2.2.6 Graduation rate for entering students by cohort year by program is not applicable to the program.

3. **Assessment**

3.1 The Upward Bound Program is assessed annually through the Annual Performance Report (APR) submitted to the U.S. Department of Education. This
detailed report gives current information on all program participants (current and prior year participants) served during the reporting period 2009-2010 along with information regarding the attainment of program objectives. The APR was submitted to the U.S. Department of Education on December 15, 2010.

During the 2009-2010 year, the Upward Bound Program was evaluated by an external evaluator to gauge effectiveness. Mr. Brad Petitfils served as the external evaluator. Overall, he concluded that the accomplishments of the past have paved the way for future improvements, and the program is experiencing great success in helping the students achieve their goals.

3.2 During the 2009-2010 reporting period, the Upward Bound Program operated under the following standardized objectives as approved by the U.S. Department of Education:

Objective A: 60% of UB participants, who at the time of entrance into the project had an expected high school graduation date during the school year will have achieved at the proficient level during high school on state assessment in reading/language arts and math.

Objective (B): 75% of 9th, 10th, 11th, and rising 12th grade project participants served during each school year will continue to participate in the Upward Bound Project during the next year.

Objective (C): 60% of all UB participants, who at the time of entrance into the project had an expected graduation date during the school year, will enroll in a program of postsecondary education by the fall term immediately following the expected graduation date from high school.

Objective (D): 65% of all UB participants who enroll in a program of postsecondary education during the fall term immediately following high school graduation will be enrolled for the fall term of the second academic year.

3.3 Student learning outcomes are not applicable to the program.

3.4 The National Student Clearing House Student Tracker for Outreach Programs is used as an assessment tool to gauge whether the program has met standardized objectives (C) and (D). Testing results collected from program participants and target school counselors are used in assessing whether the program has met objective (A), and the Blumen student database is used to assess objective (B). Additionally, the external evaluator will collect information on each participant such as: beginning and ending GPA’s, standardized pre-test and post-test scores, and focus group activities.

3.5 The Upward Bound Program is a community-based learning program which is geared to generate in its participants the skills and motivation necessary to persist
in completing a program of secondary education and to succeed in a program of postsecondary education. See 3.2 for information on how the program assesses its community-based learning goals.

3.6 The following results demonstrate the effectiveness of the Upward Bound program in complying with its four standardized objectives.

**Objective (A) Results:** During the reporting year, there were 27 Upward Bound seniors. Of that number 23 (85.17%) passed both the reading/language arts and math portions of the Louisiana GEE 21 test.

**Objective (B) Results:** Of the 78 participants served during 2009-2010, 59 (75.64%) returned for participation during 2010-2011.

**Objective (C) Results:** There were 27 seniors who graduated in May 2010. Of that number, 21 (77.77%) enrolled in a program of postsecondary education during the fall term immediately following graduation.

**Objective (D) Results:** There were 22 Upward Bound 2009 graduates who enrolled in a program of postsecondary education during the fall term immediately following graduation. Of that number 18 (81.81%) enrolled for the fall term of the second academic year.

4. **Summary of Achievements**

4.1 The unit has consistently met or exceeded its four standardized objectives each year. The program has also implemented a Retention Incentive Program to address program retention. The program has also forged a partnership with Kaplan Test Prep, Inc. to offer ACT Preparatory classes for program participants. The program also held a Financial Aid workshop for senior participants and parents. The workshop was conducted by Cathy Simoneaux, Financial Aid Director. The program was also approved by College Board to offer SAT fee waiver to junior and senior participants.

4.2 Faculty achievement/service is not applicable to the program.

4.3 There is no staff achievements/service noted this year.

4.4 There is no student achievements noted this year.

4.5 The entire program is active in community engagement. See all of the accomplishment listed above.

5. **Budget for previous year and upcoming year**
5.1 The 2010-2011 operating budget for the Upward Bound Program was $431,562. The program also has an 8 account with a 10-11 balance that totaled $558.80.

5.1.1 The Program was able to operate within the scope of the budget following all legislation and regulations set by the U.S. Department of Education and federal law. The budget was adequate for effective program operations.

5.2 The 10-11 budget for salaries and operating expenses totals $431,562.

5.2.1 The current budget will be adequate for FY10-11.

6.1 Planning and goals for the upcoming year

6.1 All strategic program planning will align with the four standardized objectives stated in the funded grant proposal approved by the U.S. Department of Education. The plan to implement these objectives can be found in the Plan of Operation section of the funded proposal. A copy of the Plan of Operation is on file in the Office of Grants and Research.

6.2 The Upward Bound Program will strive to achieve four (4) nationally standardized objectives during 2011-2012 year. These objectives align with the Loyola’s Mission in preparing program participants in excelling in education as whole persons.

6.3 The program will adhere to the objectives approved by the U.S. Department of Education as described below:

- 60% of UB participants, who at the time of entrance into the project had an expected high school graduation date during the school year will have achieved at the proficient level during high school on state assessment in reading/language arts and math.

- 75% of 9th, 10th, and 11th grade project participants served during each school year will continue to participate in the Upward Bound Project during the next year.

- 60% of all UB participants, who at the time of entrance into the project had an expected graduation date during the school year, will enroll in a program of postsecondary education by the fall term immediately following the expected graduation date from high school.

- 65% of all UB participants who enroll in a program of postsecondary education during the fall term immediately following high school graduation will be enrolled for the fall term of the second academic year.

6.4 Student Learning Outcomes are not measured by the program.
6.5 The planned external involvement with the program will be the fostering of the relationship with the principals and counselors at each of the target schools. The program will continue to update target school personnel of the progress of program participants from their target school and all Upward Bound initiatives.

6.6 The Upward Bound Program will need the resource of several on-campus departments, such as Biology and Chemistry and the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships in supporting program service delivery. Also, several departments such as the university library will be needed to house Upward Bound work-study students during the summer program component. These departments are needed to offer mentoring and exposure to degree-requiring to program participants.

6.7 The Upward Bound Program will adhere to the assessment policy stated within the funded proposal.

7. Appendices