

Upswing Partners with UNCF to Support The Fund II Foundation - UNCF STEM Scholars Program

Upswing's Partnership with UNCF Builds on Commitment to Remove Barriers from Degree Equality to Create Connected College Experience for Underserved Students



Upswing is an online student engagement organization

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- [Upswing](#), an online student engagement organization, is partnering with

[UNCF](#) (United Negro College Fund) to provide academic support for UNCF's Fund II Foundation – UNCF STEM Scholars Program (STEM Scholars Program), connecting STEM students with an online academic advising platform, tutoring, advising and mental health services.



We're proud to partner with UNCF and their STEM Scholars Program by providing academic support services that change lives for underrepresented and minority groups across the country"

Melvin Hines, co-founder and CEO of Upswing

UNCF is awarding over 500 African American undergraduate students scholarships that are pursuing careers in STEM fields through the STEM Scholars Program. Selected scholars receive funding, internships, mentoring, and other tools to help them reach their goals throughout their entire college matriculation, assuming they maintain a certain grade point average and meet other program requirements.

And now, during COVID-19, while many institutions are still online with limited access to student academic services, Upswing is another valuable resource to help students

reach their goals.

Upswing will additionally connect STEM Scholars Program scholars with academic support resources such as live and online tutoring and advising, access to a virtual assistant that quickly provides answers to their questions, and a mental health module to address students' nonacademic needs with free access to mental health and wellness resources.

"This enhanced support of the UNCF STEM Scholars Program is very welcome," said Dr. Michael L. Lomax, UNCF's president and CEO. "We thank Upswing for its investment in our

students and our mission and look forward to growing this unique partnership.”

Upswing’s Support Services to Enhance STEM Scholars’ Achievements

Upswing understands mental health and wellness are critical, but often overlooked, components to academic success and make its Mental Health and Wellness Module available 24/7 at no cost to UNCF institutions for STEM scholars students.

STEM Scholars Program scholars can address their nonacademic mental health needs with Upswing’s Mental Health & Wellness Module.

UNCF students will also have access to Upswing’s virtual assistant, Ana. Ana mimics a personal adviser’s experience through automated nudging sequences, two-way conversational interactions and sentimental analyses. It acts as a mass communication tool to reach STEM students on their phones.

UNCF plans to use Ana for mid-semester check-ins with scholars and scheduling lessons with students.

Finally, UNCF STEM Scholars have access to Upswing’s user-friendly, online advising and tutoring. A virtual learning classroom environment is easily accessible to students with the look and feel of social media platforms.

UNCF STEM Scholars can connect with advisors and tutors from the Mathematical Sciences Institute (MSI) and Upswing’s tutors through an integrated services platform to receive academic support, tutor session feedback and analyses.

Tracking student success is critical for the STEM Scholars Program. UNCF has access to an easy-to-use dashboard that aggregates and summarizes usage data to track student performance, giving them in-depth knowledge to make informed decisions around student success.

“Access to quality education is critically important because it influences the trajectory of a student’s life. We’re proud to partner with UNCF and their STEM Scholars Program by providing academic support services that change lives for underrepresented and minority groups across the country,” says Melvin Hines, co-founder and CEO of Upswing, and a former HBCU professor.



UNCF is the nation's largest and most effective minority education organization

□□Upswing’s partnership with UNCF builds on its commitment to remove the barriers from degree equality by creating a connected college experience for underserved students. Empowering anyone who wants to improve their circumstances through education can access the necessary resources to succeed.□□

About Upswing

Upswing is an Austin, Texas-based online student engagement organization focused on removing the barriers to degree equity. Learn more about Upswing at <https://upswing.io/>

About UNCF

UNCF (United Negro College Fund) is the nation’s largest and most effective minority education organization. To serve youth, the community and the nation, UNCF supports students’ education and development through scholarships and other programs, supports and strengthens its 37 member colleges and universities, and advocates for the importance of minority education and college readiness. UNCF institutions and other historically black colleges and universities are highly effective, awarding 21 percent of African American baccalaureate degrees. UNCF administers more than 400 programs, including scholarship, internship and fellowship, mentoring, summer enrichment, and curriculum and faculty development programs. Today, UNCF supports more than 60,000 students at over 1,100 colleges and universities across the country. Its logo features the UNCF torch of leadership in education and its widely recognized trademark, “A mind is a terrible thing to waste.”® Learn more at UNCF.org or for continuous updates and news, follow UNCF on Twitter at @UNCF.

Renee Hewitt

Upswing

+1 917-965-8712

renee@upswing.io

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