THE EQUITY AND ACCESS FAMILY

PENNCAP is a proud member of the Division of the Vice Provost for University Life's (VPUL) Office of Equity and Access Programs (EAP). This family of initiatives assists scholars of all ages and diverse backgrounds on their quest to reach their fullest potential.

EAP helps students adjust to campus life and plan their futures through integrated programs, pathways and partnerships.

Federal TRIO programs in Equity and Access include PENNCAP, the Educational Opportunity Center, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math-Science, and Veterans Upward Bound.

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PENNCAP

PennPFP
PENNCAP SERVICES

Academic Assessment: Incoming students benefit from academic assessments and work with staff to follow through on related recommendations.

Counseling and Advocacy: Each student is assigned a professional academic counselor for the length of his/her time at Penn.

Peer Counseling: Freshmen are mentored by experienced upper-class students for personal support and guidance.

Tutoring and Academic Support: PENNCAP works closely with the Tutoring Center and the Weingarten Learning Resources Center to provide students with the most effective strategies for dealing with their academic challenges and for thriving within the classroom.

Textbook and Laptop Loans: Students can borrow select textbooks for the duration of the semester. PENNCAP also has laptops available for short-term use.

Workshops and Information Sessions: PENNCAP offers workshops on topics such as financial literacy, exam preparation, study abroad, career development, and graduate school.

Summer Tuition Grants: PENNCAP provides tuition grants each year to eligible students taking summer courses.

Cultural Enrichment: PENNCAP sponsors a variety of cultural events, including theater, orchestra, opera, and ballet.

ABOUT PENNCAP

PENNCAP (University of Pennsylvania College Achievement Program) works closely with a diverse group of academically talented students, many from low-income and/or first-generation backgrounds, to support their success at Penn. Staff provide coaching, counseling, academic assistance, and cultural enrichment so that students can more confidently move towards their personal and academic goals.

PENNCAP is funded jointly by the University of Pennsylvania and the federal TRIO Student Support Services Grant.

ABOUT THE PRE-FRESHMAN PROGRAM

PENNCAP students often begin Penn by joining the Pre-Freshman Program (PFP), an academically rigorous, four-week, residential program preceding New Student Orientation. PFP introduces students to Penn and includes for-credit coursework, academic coaching, peer counseling, one-on-one interaction with renowned faculty, and cultural activities. Students also receive personalized study strategies to help them as they embark upon their college careers.

Select incoming freshmen are invited to apply for PFP, and many of the 100 participants each year are first-generation, income-eligible, underrepresented in their field of study, from small rural communities and/or athletes. Students who participate in PFP automatically transition into PENNCAP for continued support throughout their tenures at Penn.