

CREW PROFILE

Please describe your role as a College Counselor or College Prep Coordinator.

My role as a College Counselor is to track the graduation progress and support post-secondary planning. As a Limited Licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed school counselor, I am an expert in academic, personal-social, and college/career guidance and development. My role as a school guidance counselor is to be a safe space and sounding board for students to talk to discuss current issues, and strategize them into creative solutions for their future endeavors.

Your work is so important to ensuring our students are prepared for the next step in their academic journey. Please describe a memorable experience you had with a U Prep student.

While I have only been at the school for 1 quarter, during one of my senior 1 on 1 meetings, I was discussing hobbies/things the student enjoyed outside of school. When they began talking about their love for superheroes and anime, I got excited and started blurting about my same appreciation. The statement the student said that will stay with me is "Finally, someone who gets me" which really affirmed my transition and excitement to be a part of the UPrep family.

What advice would you give Middle School students so they are well prepared for college?

It's never too early to start expecting greatness from yourself. If you are having a hard time academically now, you can ask questions and learn from those around you to improve to be the best version of yourself you can be.

What advice would you give High School students so they are well prepared for college?

The smartest people ask questions because they are smart enough to recognize when they don't know something, smart enough to recognize where to get that help, and smart enough not to be ashamed to ask for assistance.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

The most rewarding part of my job is the excitement students gain when they work hard to get themselves back on track for graduation and they actually get to cross the stage and start their adult lives.

What do you love most about working at U Prep Schools?

I love the passion towards Culturally Relevant Education in this district. It's not just a phrase that gets swept under the rug like other districts who try the same thing. We are UPrep! We Are Crew and we foster Black Excellence! I love being a part of a school district that is "Bout it, Bout it."

TIM OSSMAN JR.

COLLEGE COUNSELOR

UPAD HIGH SCHOOL

**TIME AT U PREP:
5 MONTHS**

University Prep Schools provides a culturally responsive educational experience for our scholars that builds that academic competence, habits of work and scholarship, and self-actualization empowering them to successfully accomplish their post-secondary plans, as well as socially and civically engaged as change agents for themselves and their community.