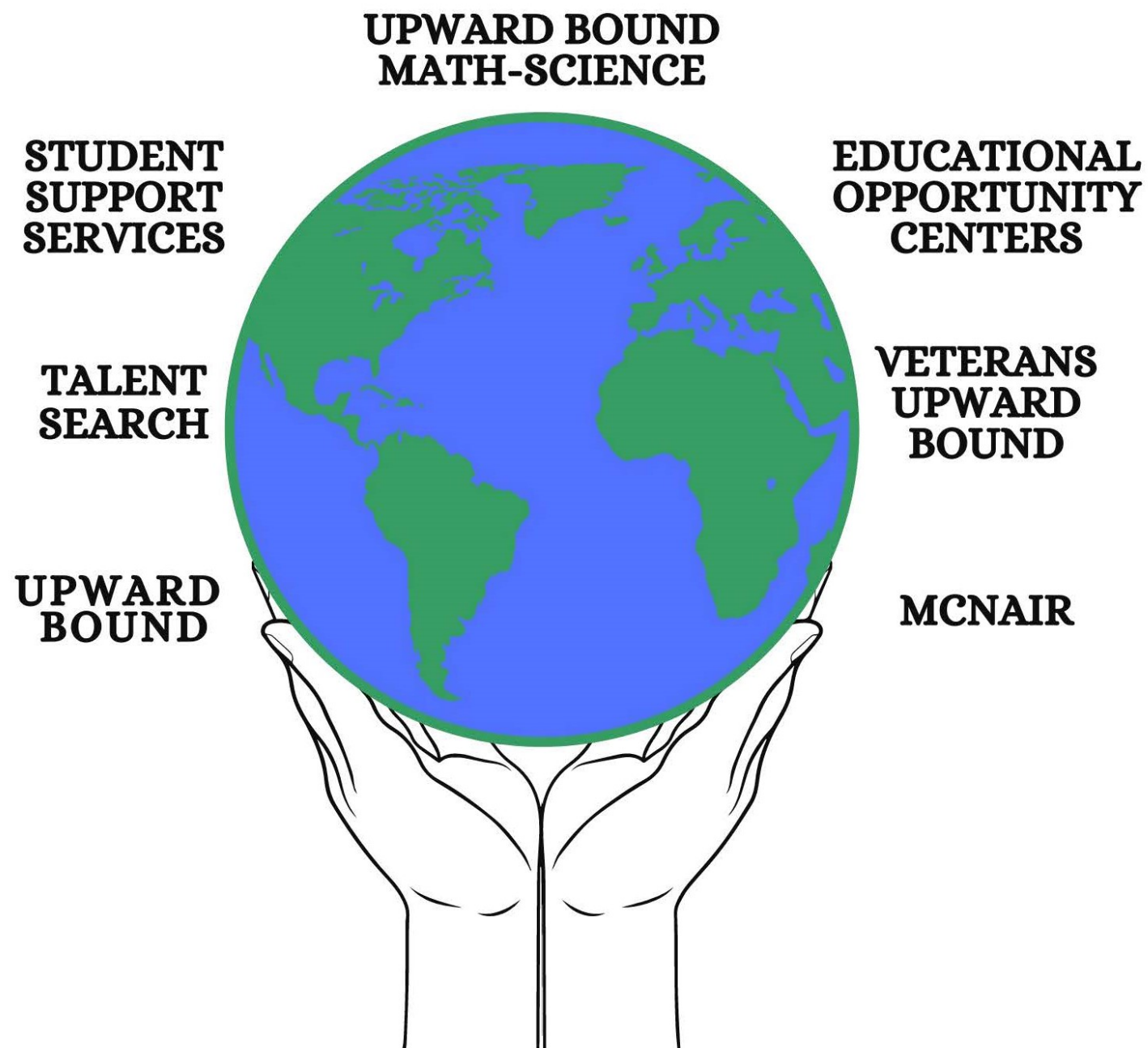


O.D.S.A

Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance

TOGETHER, WE CAN



*2020-2021 Oklahoma Programs
Fact Booklet*

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Acknowledgements

The Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance (ODSA) TRIO Booklet Committee is pleased to present the 2019-2020 edition of the Oklahoma TRIO Statistics booklet. The goal of this publication is to increase awareness of the TRIO programs and provide insight into their purpose. Many use this booklet as a means of informing individuals of the various efforts of TRIO programs and their effects on education within the state of Oklahoma.

We thank everyone who responded to the call for nominations for the Hall of Fame section. For those of us who work in TRIO, we know of the many success stories our participants have to share, both past and present. The Hall of Fame section represents ODSA's effort to recognize those students for their academic and personal achievements.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank those who work to ensure the accuracy of the information published in this booklet by providing data and information via the internet:

Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance: odsa.wildapricot.org

Council for Opportunity in Education: www.coenet.us

U.S. Department of Education: www.ed.gov

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History & Purpose of TRIO Programs

Initiated in response to President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty, TRIO programs began with the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 which created the *Upward Bound* program. One year later the Higher Education Act of 1965 produced the *Talent Search* program. The Higher Education Amendments of 1968 transferred Upward Bound into the Higher Education Act and authorized *Student Support Services*, the third in a series of federal educational opportunity programs that would be known as "TRIO."

In the following decades, the TRIO programs expanded and improved, providing a wider range of services to participants and reaching more students who would need assistance. The Higher Education Amendments of 1972 added the fourth program to TRIO through implementation of the *Educational Opportunity Centers*. In the summer of that same year, *Veterans Upward Bound* was established by Congress as part of a special appropriation. The 1976 Education Amendments authorized the Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs.

New revisions in 1986 helped to create TRIO's sixth program, the *Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement* program. Four years later, in 1990, the *Upward Bound Math Science* program was formed. In 1998, further Higher Education Amendments authorized the TRIO Dissemination Partnership Program, designed to encourage the replication of successful practices of TRIO programs.

The primary purpose of the TRIO Programs is to identify qualified individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, to prepare them for a program of post-secondary education, to provide support services for such students who are pursuing programs of post-secondary education, to motivate and prepare students for doctoral programs, and to train individuals serving or preparing for service in programs and projects so designed. Depending upon the specific program and its authority, there are a number of different permissible and/or required services offered to eligible participants.

- Academic advice and assistance
- Assistance in completing college admission and financial aid applications
- Assistance in preparing for college entrance examinations
- Guidance and assistance in secondary school re-entry
- Personal and career counseling
- Tutorial services
- Exposure to college campuses, as well as cultural events, academic programs, and other sites or activities
- Workshops and mentoring programs
- Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics through pre-calculus, laboratory science, foreign language, composition, literature, and other subjects
- Special services to enable veterans to make the transition to post-secondary education
- Activities designed to assist students in 2-year institutions secure admission and financial assistance for enrollment in a four-year institution
- Opportunities for research or other scholarly activities designed to provide students with effective preparation for doctoral study

PROGRAM & AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
<p style="text-align: center;">UPWARD BOUND Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 [P.L. 88-452]</p>	<p>Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families and from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of post-secondary education.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TALENT SEARCH Higher Education Act of 1965 [P.L. 89-320]</p>	<p>The Talent Search program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. Talent Search provides academic, career, and financial counseling to its participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue on to and complete their post-secondary education. Talent Search programs publicize the availability of financial aid and assist participants with the post-secondary application process. The program also encourages persons who have not completed education programs at the secondary or post-secondary level to enter or reenter and complete post-secondary education. The goal of Talent Search is to increase the number of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in and complete their post-secondary education.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES Higher Education Amendments of 1968 [P.L. 90-575]</p>	<p>Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and motivate students toward the successful completion of their post-secondary education. Student Support Services (SSS) projects also may provide grant aid to current SSS participants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants (# 84.063). The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">VETERANS UPWARD BOUND Second Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1972 [P.L. 92-306]</p>	<p>Veterans Upward Bound is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of post-secondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and complete post-secondary education programs.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTERS Higher Education Amendments of 1972 [P.L. 92-318]</p>	<p>The Educational Opportunity Centers program provides counseling and information on college admissions to qualified adults who want to enter or continue a program of post-secondary education. The program also provides services to improve the financial and economic literacy of participants. An important objective of the program is to counsel participants on financial aid options, including basic financial planning skills, and to assist in the application process. The goal of the EOC program is to increase the number of adult participants who enroll in post-secondary education institutions.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">RONALD E. MCNAIR POST BACCALAUREATE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM Higher Education Amendments of 1986 [P.L. 99-498]</p>	<p>Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to prepare eligible participants for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. Participants are from disadvantaged backgrounds and have demonstrated strong academic potential. Institutions work closely with participants as they complete their undergraduate requirements. Institutions encourage participants to enroll in graduate programs and then track their progress through to the successful completion of advanced degrees. The goal is to increase the attainment of Ph.D. degrees by students from underrepresented segments of society.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">UPWARD BOUND MATH SCIENCE Higher Education Amendments of 1986 [P.L. 99-498]</p>	<p>The Upward Bound Math and Science program is designed to strengthen the math and science skills of participating students. The goal of the program is to help students recognize and develop their potential to excel in math and science and to encourage them to pursue post-secondary degrees in math and science, and ultimately careers in the math and science professions.</p>

Professional Organizations

The TRIO programs have both state and regional professional organizations. These non-profit organizations provide their members the guidance and support needed to promote and guard the idea of educational opportunity for all TRIO eligible individuals. These associations assist the TRIO community in achieving its educational goals. The purpose of these organizations is to:

- Promote professional competency, efficiency, and to partner members and others associated with, and concerned about, student assistance programs
- Foster the development, improvement, and extension of educational opportunities for TRIO eligible persons
- Provide for improved communication between institutions and agencies sponsoring student assistance programs
- Foster a commitment to develop bold and innovative educational programs designed to provide opportunities for eligible participants to initiate, continue, or resume secondary and/or post-secondary education
- Promote and provide individual and cooperative studies, research, workshops, seminars, conferences, effective models, and related activities to fulfill the purposes of the association
- Develop, maintain, and disseminate data pertinent to resolving issues to all bona fide participants and officials of student assistance programs
- Participate in ethical efforts geared to guarantee all membership equal rights, privileges, and benefits

Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance (ODSA)

Oklahoma established its first TRIO programs in 1966, which is the year six Upward Bound programs opened their doors for their first summer component. Over the next four years, the program directors held informal meetings to discuss the challenges and issues they faced.

Walter O. Mason, often known as “The Father of TRIO,” called for his fellow program directors to organize state-wide professional associations. Through his encouragement, a handful of program directors (including Mr. Mason) established the Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance in 1971, becoming one of the first states to have a professional organization for TRIO personnel.

Today, ODSA serves nearly 300 TRIO professionals within the state of Oklahoma and membership continues to grow. Through its annual conference, ODSA continues to promote, develop and improve the educational opportunities for eligible individuals in Oklahoma.

Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs (SWASAP)

Under President Nixon’s administration, the TRIO programs were decentralized and administered from 10 regional centers. These regional agencies were given full authority to fund, defund, and administer programs in their area. This environment created inconsistency in policy and priorities among TRIO programs.

In an effort to restructure their relationship with Washington officials, regional associations emerged. In 1972 the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, Louisiana and Arkansas formed the Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs. Later on, the regional associations were realigned and SWASAP no longer includes the state of Arizona.

Currently serving over 130,000 participants, SWASAP encourages and supports members in their endeavor to serve the national and regional needs of the targeted population by conducting an annual meeting of TRIO members from each participating state.

What are the Federal TRIO Programs?

Upward Bound
Talent Search
Student Support Services
Veterans Upward Bound

Educational Opportunity Centers
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement
Upward Bound Math Science
Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs

TRIO offers seven educational outreach programs that are designed to motivate, support, and advocate for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Many of the students that receive help through the TRIO programs may not otherwise have the opportunity for an education beyond high school. Training programs were also established to educate individuals and organizations regarding the objectives of TRIO. The programs provided by TRIO can be found in over 1,000 colleges, universities, and other agencies in America, and assist students in conquering not only economic difficulty, but class, social, and cultural barriers, as well.

The TRIO programs have had a major impact on education in America, with more than 2,800 programs currently serving nearly 790,000 low-income, first generation individuals. The TRIO programs are committed to providing an equal educational opportunity to all individuals and currently serve over 7,000 disabled students and approximately 6,000 military veterans. Participant's ethnic backgrounds vary with 35% Caucasian, 35% African-American, 19% Hispanic, 4% Native American, 3% Asian-American, and 4% listed as "Other," which includes multiracial students.

In many communities, the TRIO Programs are some of the only programs available that help students to overcome the class, social, academic and cultural barriers to higher education. The educational and human services offered through the TRIO Programs are distinguishable from all other counseling programs in America because TRIO Programs are:

One-on-One

As most TRIO Programs serve fewer than 250 students, TRIO counselors have an opportunity to work one-on-one with each student. TRIO professionals get to know each student on a first-name basis. TRIO counselors are personally committed to the success of their students.

Performance Based

Each TRIO Program operates against specific, measurable outcome objectives as clearly defined in each approved grant proposal. TRIO Program Directors are held accountable and must meet their stated objectives each year to remain funded and able to help participants in their targeted service area.

Focused on Early Intervention

Three of the TRIO Programs, Talent Search, Upward Bound, and Upward Bound Math Science are early intervention programs. These programs effectively reach students in grades 6th through 12th who have "college potential" but often do not recognize or understand their academic and career options beyond high school. Each year, these three programs keep thousands of promising young low-income and minority students in school and focused on career and college success.

Targeted Towards First Generation and Low-Income

Two-thirds of the students in the TRIO Programs come from families with incomes under 150% of the poverty level and where neither parent earned a baccalaureate degree. In most cases, parents who have no higher education experience, do not understand the post-secondary process, and do not necessarily value a higher education.

Built on Relationships

Over a period of several months or years, TRIO professionals build both personal and professional relationships with their students. Such positive relationships are critical to the success of every TRIO Program. The staff of each TRIO Program creates a climate of support for students as they strive to move out of poverty and dependence. As a result of these strong positive relationships, many TRIO college graduates periodically return to their programs to encourage and inspire current students.

Committed to Tough Cases

In most cases, students in the TRIO Programs are poor and are desperately trying to climb out of "the vicious cycle of poverty in America." Many students come to TRIO from neighborhoods that are filled with violence, discouragement, negativity and hopelessness. A single parent raising several children, an older child helping to raise younger siblings, a physically-disabled person with few financial resources, and a struggling high school student trying to escape a life of poverty describe the young people and adults who turn to the TRIO Programs for assistance.

Consistent and Intense

TRIO Programs and TRIO professionals are consistently available to their students. Many TRIO programs enable students to meet with counselors during the summer, in the evening or on weekends. In fact, some TRIO professionals, as part of their specified program objectives, visit students at home to discuss courses or career plans.

Comprehensive and Cultural

The academic and human services as administered through the TRIO Programs are comprehensive and must go far beyond the traditional services offered by high school or college counselors. Many students in the TRIO Programs receive instruction in literature, composition, foreign languages, mathematics and science. In addition, students receive assistance in completing college admission and financial aid applications, tutorial services, and exposure to cultural events.

Reality Based

Like their students, many TRIO professionals had to overcome class, social, academic and cultural barriers to succeed in higher education. As a result, they can effectively relate to their students and know how to motivate young people and adults in spite of the obstacles that often serve to discourage students from low-income families.

Community Based

Community need is determined by the community, not the federal government. TRIO Programs are funded based on clear evidence that the program is needed in a particular community or town. Criteria used in determining need in a specific area include income level, education attainment level, dropout rates, student-to-counselor ratio, social and economic conditions, and overall demographic data.

Non-Bureaucratic

TRIO Programs do not involve a large federal bureaucracy because they are direct grant programs funded in rank order on the basis of competitive proposals. In fact, TRIO Programs only exist where local organizations see the need for such services and have successfully applied for federal support. Despite substantial increases in the number of TRIO students and programs, fewer federal employees are working with TRIO today than 20 years ago.

National TRIO Funding
Totals FY 2020

<i>TRIO Program</i>	<i>Funding FY 2020</i>	<i>Number of Projects</i>	<i>Number of Participants</i>
Upward Bound	\$352,094,127	966	70,711
Talent Search	\$168,306,753	473	309,905
Student Support Services	\$365,918,070	1,156	209,075
Veterans Upward Bound	\$19,228,457	60	7,898
Educational Opportunity Centers	\$54,926,989	139	192,530
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Programs	\$51,778,211	187	5,242
Upward Bound Math Science	\$65,439,4380	212	13,184
TRIO Training Programs for Federal TRIO Programs	\$3,219,292	10	2,616 <i>(number of staff trained)</i>
TOTAL	\$1,050,247,388	3,118	805,712

Total Funding\$1,669,866,279

Total Number of Awards 3,749

Total Number of Participants 811,161

**Oklahoma TRIO
Funding Totals FY 2020**

TRIO Program	Funding FY 2020	Number of Projects	Number of Participants
Upward Bound	\$8,272,301	23	1,668
Talent Search	\$4,855,113	15	8,781
Student Support Services	\$9,012,439	30	5,053
Veterans Upward Bound	\$911,757	3	379
Educational Opportunity Centers	\$2,874,006	6	9,955
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Programs	\$1,346,323	5	133
Upward Bound Math Science	\$2,261,776	7	445
TRIO Training Programs for Federal TRIO Programs	\$297,601	1	300
TOTAL	\$29,240,970	90	25,039

Total Funding \$29,831,106

Total Number of Awards90

Total Number of Participants26,714

Upward Bound (UB)

Program Description:

The Upward Bound program attempts to generate skills and motivation necessary for success in education beyond high school. Participants are students currently enrolled in high school who meet the low-income and/or potential first generation college student requirements and who are willing to prepare themselves for entry into post-secondary education.

Participant Eligibility:

Student must have completed the eighth grade, be between the ages of 13 and 19 (unless they are a veteran participant), be enrolled in high school, be planning to attend college, and need the services Upward Bound provides in order to fulfill their goals. Two-thirds of the participants must be low-income and be potential first generation college students. The remaining participants must be low-income *or* first generation. Participants are selected based on recommendations from their counselors, teachers, and social service agencies.

Sponsoring Institutions:

Upward Bound programs may be sponsored by institutions of higher education, public and private non-profit agencies, and in exceptional cases, secondary schools.

Application/Funding Process:

Competitions for regular Upward Bound funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

Services Provided:

- Instruction in math through pre-calculus, lab science, foreign language, composition, literature, & other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school
- Academic, financial, or personal counseling
- Exposure to cultural events
- Tutorial services
- Information on post-secondary education opportunities
- Information on student financial assistance
- Assistance in completing college admissions testing and applications as well as financial aid applications
- Exposure to the range of career options where the disadvantaged person might be under-represented

Oklahoma UB Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$8,272,301
 Number of Awards..... 23
 Number of Participants 1,668

National UB Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded\$352,094,127
 Number of Awards..... 966
 Number of Participants 70,711

UB 2012-2013 Annual Performance Report Data				
	Oklahoma		National	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Graduates	443	-	15,686	-
Graduates Enrolled in College	340	76.7	13,334	85.0
Total Successful Outcomes		95.6		96.3

**most recent APR data available at time of publication*

Talent Search (TS)

Program Description:

The Talent Search program identifies eligible young people who have the desire and potential for success in post-secondary education. TS encourages participants to continue in and graduate from secondary schools, or to return to high school if they have dropped out. The goal of TS is to have participants enroll in some form of post-secondary education.

Participant Eligibility:

Students must be between the ages of 11 and 27, and have completed five years of elementary education. In any given project, two-thirds of the participants must be low-income persons who are also potential first generation college students.

Sponsoring Institutions:

Talent Search programs may be sponsored by institutions of higher education, public and private non-profit agencies, and in exceptional cases, secondary schools.

Application/Funding Process:

Competitions for Talent Search funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of non-competing continuation application.

Services Provided:

- Student academic, financial and personal counseling
- Career exploration and aptitude assessments
- Assistance with the re-entry process to high school or college
- Information on post-secondary education
- Personal development workshops in areas such as test taking and study skills
- Assistance in completing college admissions testing and applications as well as financial aid applications
- Personal growth activities focused on sixth, seventh and eighth graders
- Tutoring sessions for students with academic needs
- Parental involvement
- Mentoring
- Workshops for families of participants

Oklahoma TS Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$4,855,113
 Number of Awards..... 15
 Number of Participants 8,781

National TS Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$168,306,753
 Number of Awards..... 473
 Number of Participants 309,905

TS 2013-2014 Annual Performance Data				
	Oklahoma		National	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total # Participants	8,997	-	305,983	-
Graduates Enrolled in College	986	73.9	48,750	79.7
Graduates Applied for Financial Aid	1,021	79.8	53,079	84.5
Total # Successful Outcomes	8,549	95.6	284,012	92.8

**most recent APR data available at time of publication*

Student Support Services (SSS)

Program Description:

The Student Support Services Program provides supportive services to disadvantaged college students to enhance their potential for successfully completing the education program in which they are enrolled and to facilitate their transition to the next level of higher education.

Participant Eligibility:

To receive assistance, student must be enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, in a program of post-secondary education at a sponsoring institution of higher education and have an established need for academic assistance. All participants must be low-income, first generation, and/or physically disabled.

Sponsoring Institutions:

Student Support Services Programs may only be sponsored by institutions of higher education. Each applying institution must be prepared to assure that each student participating in the project will be offered sufficient financial assistance to meet that student's full financial need.

Application/Funding Process:

Competitions for Student Support Services funding are held every five years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

Services Provided:

- Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics and other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school
- Tutorial services, mentoring, and information about career options
- Academic, financial, and personal counseling
- Exposure to cultural events
- Assistance in obtaining student financial aid
- Assistance in securing admission and financial assistance for enrollment in four-year institutions (function of SSS at two-year institutions)
- Assistance in securing admissions and financial assistance for enrollment in graduate and professional programs (function of SSS at four-year institutions)
- May be specifically designed for students of limited English proficiency

Oklahoma SSS Funding, FY 2020:

Total Awarded \$9,012,439
 Number of Awards 30
 Number of Participants 5,053

National SSS Funding, FY 2020:

Total Awarded \$365,918,070
 Number of Awards 1,156
 Number of Participants 209,075

SSS Annual Performance Report Data 2012-13 and 2013-14				
	2012-13 Cohort		2013-14 Cohort	
	OK	National	OK	National
Persistence	84.9%	87.3%	87.0%	87.9%
Completion at 4 year	43.2%	50.4%	40.9%	50.7%
Completion at 2 year	44.8%	39.0%	44.1%	39.2%
Successful Outcomes	80.9%	84.3%	82.0%	84.2%

**most recent APR data available at time of publication*

Veterans Upward Bound (VUB)

Program Description:

Veterans Upward Bound is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of post-secondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and complete post-secondary education programs.

Participant Eligibility:

Participants must be military veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for more than 180 days and received other than a dishonorable discharge; was discharged because of a service-connected disability; was a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces called to active duty for a period of more than 30 days; OR was a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces who served on active duty in support of a contingency operation on or after September 11, 2001. These veterans who are preparing to enter a postsecondary institution must be either low-income, potential first-generation, have been out of school for more than 5 years, have a disability, or have a test score lower than admissible standards. At least two-thirds of the project's participants must be both low-income and first-generation port of a contingency operation on or after September 11, 2001; and have a high risk for academic failure.

Sponsoring Institutions:

Institutions of higher education, public and private agencies and organizations including community-based organizations with experience in serving disadvantaged youth, combinations of such institutions, agencies and organizations, and as appropriate to the purpose of the program, secondary schools.

Application/Funding Process:

Competitions for Veterans Upward Bound funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

Services Provided:

- Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics and other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school
- Academic, financial, or personal counseling
- Exposure to cultural events
- Tutorial services
- Information on post-secondary education opportunities
- Information on student financial assistance
- Assistance in completing college admissions testing and applications as well as financial aid applications
- Exposure to the range of career options where the disadvantaged person might be under-represented

Oklahoma VUB Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded\$911,757
Number of Awards..... 3
Number of Participants 379

National VUB Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$19,228,457
Number of Awards..... 60
Number of Participants 7,898

82% of VUB participants completed the program or remained in the project.

71% of VUB participants who completed their VUB project, improved on a standardized test.

74% of VUB participants who completed their VUB project enrolled into a postsecondary program of study.

23% of those who enrolled in PSE completed a bachelor's or associate degree within 6 years.

Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC)

Program Description:

The Educational Opportunity Centers program provides assistance and information to adults who seek to enter or continue in a program of post-secondary education.

Participant Eligibility:

The program targets persons who express a desire to enroll, or re-enroll, in a post-secondary program, and those who request information and assistance in applying for admission and/or financial aid. At least two-thirds of the students must be low-income, first generation college persons, age 19 or above, who need services in order to pursue a post-secondary education. If the services of an Talent Search program are not available in the target area, persons under 19 may be served by an EOC.

Sponsoring Institutions:

Educational Opportunity Centers programs may be sponsored by institutions of higher education, public and private non-profit agencies, and in exceptional cases, secondary schools.

Application/Funding Process:

Competitions for Educational Opportunity Centers funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

Services Provided:

- Academic, financial and personal counseling
 - Career exploration and aptitude assessments
 - Personal and group counseling
 - Assistance with entry or re-entry into a GED or other program of secondary education
 - Assistance in completing college admissions applications and testing
 - Assistance with financial aid applications
 - Coordination with nearby post-secondary institutions
 - Basic academic skills classes
 - Media activities designed to involve and acquaint the community with higher education opportunities
 - Tutoring and mentoring programs

Oklahoma EOC Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$2,874,006
 Number of Awards 6
 Number of Participants..... 9,955

National EOC Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$54,926,989
 Number of Awards 139
 Number of Participants..... 192,530

EOC Annual Performance Report Data 2013-14		
	OK	National
Total Low Income, First Generation Students Served	9,254	186,481
College Ready Participants Enrolled in Postsecondary Education	4,004	69,932
Rate of Postsecondary Enrollment	62.3%	57.6%
Total Successful Outcomes	53.9%	44.4%

**most recent APR data available at time of publication*

Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair)

Program Descriptions:

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement program (also known as the McNair Scholars program) provides opportunities at the undergraduate and graduate levels for research or other scholarly activities at institutions or graduate centers designed to provide students with effective preparation for doctoral study.

Participant Eligibility:

Students must be enrolled in a degree program at an eligible institution. In any given project, two-thirds of the participants must be low-income persons who are also potential first generation college students. The remaining participants must be from a group who is under-represented in graduate education.

Sponsoring Institutions:

McNair Scholars programs may only be sponsored by institutions of higher education.

Application/Funding Process:

Competitions for Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement programs funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

Services Provided:

- Opportunities for research
- Summer internships
- Tutorial services
- Academic counseling
- Seminars
- Assistance in obtaining student financial aid
- Assistance in securing admission to graduate programs
- Mentoring programs
- Exposure to cultural events

Oklahoma McNair Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded..... \$1,346,323
 Number of Awards 5
 Number of Participants 133

National McNair Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded..... \$51,778,211
 Number of Awards 187
 Number of Participants 5,242

McNair Scholars Annual Performance Report Data 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13				
		# Bachelor Degree Recipients	# Enrolled in Graduate School	Cumulative Enrollment Rate
2012-13 Cohort	Oklahoma Programs	37	26	70.3%
	All Programs	1,939	1,152	59.4%
2011-12 Cohort	Oklahoma Programs	37	28	79.6%
	All Programs	1,958	1,103	56.3%
2010-11 Cohort	Oklahoma Programs	37	26	63.6%
	All Programs	1,958	1,171	59.0%

**most recent APR data available at time of publication*

Upward Bound Math Science (UBMS)

Program Description:

The Upward Bound Math Science program initiative seeks to strengthen the math and science education of participating students and assists them in demonstrating competency in those areas.

Participant Eligibility:

Students must have completed the ninth grade, be between the ages of 13 and 19 (unless they are a veteran participant), be enrolled in high school, be planning to attend college, have an interest and aptitude for careers in math and science, and need the services UBMS provides in order to fulfill their goals. Two-thirds of the participants must be low-income and be potential first generation college students. The remaining participants must be low-income or first generation. Participants are selected based on recommendations from their counselors, teachers, and social service agencies.

Sponsoring Institutions:

Upward Bound Math Science programs may be sponsored by institutions of higher education, public and private agencies and organizations, and in exceptional cases, secondary schools.

Application/Funding Process:

Competitions for funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

Services Provided:

- Six weeks of intensive math (including computer science) and science programs during the summer (this summer instructional component is designed to simulate a college-going experience)
- Year-round academic, financial, or personal counseling
- Exposure to experts performing research activities in math and science
- Tutorial services
- Core curriculum instruction including mathematics through pre-calculus, laboratory science, hands-on experience in laboratories, as well as in computer facilities and at field sites
- Computer training
- Participant-conducted scientific research under the guidance of a faculty member or graduate student serving as the participant’s mentor

Oklahoma UBMS Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$2,261,776
 Number of Awards 7
 Number of Participants..... 445

National UBMS Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$65,439,438
 Number of Awards 212
 Number of Participants..... 13,184

UBMS Annual Performance Report Data 2012-2013				
	Oklahoma		National	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Graduates	50	-	2,267	-
Graduates Enrolled in College	40	80.1	1,981	87.4
Total Successful Outcomes	-	94.90	-	97.3

**most recent APR data available at time of publication*

Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs

Directors and staff employed by the Federal TRIO Programs are able to receive funding for further enhancement of knowledge, abilities and proficiency in their specific projects by means of the Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs. Through this program, employees may obtain experience by means of conferences, seminars, internships, workshops and/or publication of manuals. Topics for learning will be established by the Secretary of Education, and announced in the Federal Register notice for application.

The Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs can include:

- Improving student retention
- Counseling services
- Student testing
- Working with specific TRIO populations
- Legislative and regulatory requirements
- Program evaluation
- Assisting students in securing adequate financial aid
- The design and operation of model TRIO projects
- New directors training
- Use of appropriate educational technology
- Training Opportunities for Federal TRIO Programs' Personnel

Oklahoma TRIO Training Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$297,601
Number of Programs Awarded 1
Number of Staff Trained 300

National TRIO Training Funding, FY 2020:

Awarded \$3,219,292
Number of Programs Awarded 10
Number of Staff Trained 2,616

National Comparisons By Fiscal Year

TRIO Program	FY Year	Funding	Projects	Participants
Upward Bound	FY 2020	\$352,094,127	966	70,711
	FY 2019	\$343,356,535	966	70,744
	FY 2018	\$355,592,015	967	70,914
	FY 2017	\$312,052,710	956	70,001
	FY 2016	\$270,228,385	810	61,747
	FY 2015	\$263,412,436	813	61,361
	FY 2014	\$264,578,959	814	61,458
	FY 2013	\$249,857,649	816	59,143
	FY 2012	\$269,229,023	826	62,576
Talent Search	FY 2020	\$168,306,753	473	309,905
	FY 2019	\$179,852,045	473	309,905
	FY 2018	\$158,260,406	473	309,905
	FY 2017	\$151,772,998	473	312,855
	FY 2016	\$150,635,825	481	318,723
	FY 2015	\$134,520,595	449	310,199
	FY 2014	\$134,613,873	450	310,747
	FY 2013	\$128,116,544	452	299,683
	FY 2012	\$135,968,652	454	313,641
Student Support Services	FY 2020	\$365,918,070	1156	209,075
	FY 2019	\$337,107,672	1,066	202,255
	FY 2018	\$322,608,056	1,069	202,880
	FY 2017	\$310,042,536	1,069	202,913
	FY 2016	\$302,405,536	1,071	203,290
	FY 2015	\$297,256,676	1,081	205,263
	FY 2014	\$288,631,903	1,027	202,492
	FY 2013	\$274,739,441	1,027	197,663
	FY 2012	\$290,325,810	1,028	202,750
Veterans Upward Bound	FY 2020	\$19,228,457	60	7,898
	FY 2019	\$19,064,429	62	8,157
	FY 2018	\$18,384,370	62	8,157
	FY 2017	\$18,186,172	64	8,407
	FY 2016	\$13,852,595	49	6,587
	FY 2015	\$13,548,241	49	6,566
	FY 2014	\$13,706,511	49	6,566
	FY 2013	\$13,036,887	50	6,404
	FY 2012	\$14,392,377	51	6,831

National Comparisons By Fiscal Year, continued from previous page

TRIO Program	FY Year	Funding	Projects	Participants
Educational Opportunities Center	FY 2020	\$54,926,989	139	192,530
	FY 2019	\$54,100,779	140	193,530
	FY 2018	\$51,681,910	140	193,530
	FY 2017	\$50,649,719	142	199,722
	FY 2016	\$56,186,996	165	225,678
	FY 2015	\$46,606,423	126	189,733
	FY 2014	\$46,876,529	126	189,733
	FY 2013	\$44,063,593	126	181,581
	FY 2012	\$45,901,792	126	189,131
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program	FY 2020	\$51,778,211	187	5,242
	FY 2019	\$50,027,266	187	5,242
	FY 2018	\$47,872,986	187	5,242
	FY 2017	\$45,896,206	187	5,234
	FY 2016	\$36,589,491	151	4,338
	FY 2015	\$35,701,197	151	4,293
	FY 2014	\$35,600,323	151	4,293
	FY 2013	\$34,060,382	152	4,191
	FY 2012	\$37,270,374	158	4,482
Upward Bound Math Science	FY 2020	\$65,439,438	212	13,184
	FY 2019	\$63,521,110	212	13,184
	FY 2018	\$67,687,618	212	13,184
	FY 2017	\$58,256,458	211	13,182
	FY 2016	\$44,050,368	162	10,176
	FY 2015	\$43,050,368	162	10,034
	FY 2014	\$43,083,035	162	10,034
	FY 2013	\$40,519,232	162	9,687
	FY 2012	\$44,141,410	166	10,265
TRIO Training Programs <i>*# of programs</i> <i>^# of staff trained</i>	FY 2020	\$3,219,292	10*	2,616^
	FY 2019	\$3,216,692	12*	2,695^
	FY 2018	\$3,078,175	12*	2,695^
	FY 2017	\$2,804,995	13*	2,536^
	FY 2016	\$2,736,577	13*	2,536^
	FY 2015	\$1,524,998	8*	1,306^
	FY 2014	\$1,524,998	8*	1,306^
	FY 2013	\$1,326,776	6*	1,101^
	FY 2012	\$1,399,998	6*	1,161^
TOTAL	FY 2020	\$1,669,866,279	3,749	811,161
	FY 2019	\$1,050,247,388	3,118	805,712
	FY 2018	\$1,025,165,536	3,122	806,507
	FY 2017	\$949,661,681	3,115	814,800
	FY 2016	\$876,924,679	2,902	788,755
	FY 2015	\$835,620,934	2,839	786,629
	FY 2014	\$828,616,131	2,787	759,453
	FY 2013	\$785,720,464	2,791	790,837
	FY 2012	\$838,629,436	2,815	799,748

Oklahoma Comparisons By Fiscal Year

TRIO Program	FY Year	Funding	Projects	Participants
Upward Bound	FY 2020	\$8,272,301	23	1,668
	FY 2019	\$8,145,505	23	1,668
	FY 2018	\$8,415,513	23	1,668
	FY 2017	\$7,476,973	23	1,668
	FY 2016	\$7,252,383	23	1,672
	FY 2015	\$7,186,627	23	1,656
	FY 2014	\$7,314,521	24	1,713
	FY 2013	\$7,047,691	24	1,656
	FY 2012	\$7,436,627	24	1,713
Talent Search	FY 2020	\$4,855,113	15	8,781
	FY 2019	\$5,254,161	15	8,781
	FY 2018	\$4,480,334	15	8,781
	FY 2017	\$4,308,514	15	8,781
	FY 2016	\$4,143,778	15	8,781
	FY 2015	\$4,143,778	14	9,075
	FY 2014	\$4,143,778	14	6,075
	FY 2013	\$3,927,058	14	5,943
	FY 2012	\$4,143,778	14	6,075
Student Support Services	FY 2020	\$9,012,439	30	5,053
	FY 2019	\$8,552,699	29	4,986
	FY 2018	\$8,184,403	29	4,866
	FY 2017	\$7,850,750	30	4,986
	FY 2016	\$8,092,748	30	5,286
	FY 2015	\$7,869,663	24	4,470
	FY 2014	\$6,371,729	24	4,378
	FY 2013	\$6,160,087	24	4,470
	FY 2012	\$6,500,039	24	4,470
Veterans Upward Bound	FY 2020	\$911,757	3	379
	FY 2019	\$891,538	3	379
	FY 2018	\$853,146	3	379
	FY 2017	\$818,366	3	379
	FY 2016	\$540,908	2	254
	FY 2015	\$525,153	2	250
	FY 2014	\$525,153	2	250
	FY 2013	\$497,687	2	236
	FY 2012	\$525,153	2	250

Oklahoma Comparisons By Fiscal Year, continued from previous page

TRIO Program	FY Year	Funding	Projects	Participants
Educational Opportunity Centers	FY 2020	\$2,874,006	6	9,955
	FY 2019	\$2,820,566	6	9,955
	FY 2018	\$2,699,107	6	9,955
	FY 2017	\$2,589,071	6	9,955
	FY 2016	\$2,525,922	6	9,955
	FY 2015	\$2,240,491	5	8,955
	FY 2014	\$2,240,491	5	8,955
	FY 2013	\$2,083,558	5	8,654
	FY 2012	\$2,240,491	5	8,955
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program	FY 2020	\$1,346,323	5	133
	FY 2019	\$1,300,795	5	133
	FY 2018	\$1,244,779	3	133
	FY 2017	\$1,194,032	3	133
	FY 2016	\$711,714	3	83
	FY 2015	\$690,988	3	81
	FY 2014	\$690,988	3	81
	FY 2013	\$654,848	3	80
	FY 2012	\$690,987	3	81
Upward Bound Math Science	FY 2020	\$2,261,776	7	445
	FY 2019	\$2,185,290	7	445
	FY 2018	\$2,330,426	7	445
	FY 2017	\$2,005,936	7	445
	FY 2016	\$1,957,009	7	445
	FY 2015	\$1,900,008	7	445
	FY 2014	\$1,900,008	7	435
	FY 2013	\$1,800,638	7	426
	FY 2012	\$1,900,008	7	435
TRIO Training Programs	FY 2020	\$297,601	1	300
	FY 2019	\$474,436	2	450
	FY 2018	\$474,436	2	450
	FY 2017	\$262,882	1	300
	FY 2016	\$262,882	1	300
TOTALS	FY 2020	\$29,831,316	90	26,714
	FY 2019	\$29,624,990	90	26,797
	FY 2018	\$28,661,714	89	26,797
	FY 2017	\$26,506,522	85	26,797
	FY 2016	\$24,556,708	84	26,797
	FY 2015	\$24,556,708	79	25,742
	FY 2014	\$23,186,667	79	24,982
	FY 2013	\$22,171,567	79	24,373
	FY 2012	\$23,437,994	79	24,982

Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (by program)

Adult Programs

SSS

Cameron University	\$460,680.00	Regular
Carl Albert State College/Poteau & Sallisaw	\$203,875.00	Regular
Connors State College	\$294,722.00	Regular
East Central University	\$261,888.00	Regular
East Central University	\$261,888.00	Veterans
Eastern Oklahoma State College	\$335,111.00	Regular
Langston University	\$261,888.00	Regular
Murray State College	\$422,663.00	Regular
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	\$300,977.00	Regular
Northeastern State University	\$343,649.00	Regular
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	\$261,888.00	Regular
Oklahoma City Community College	\$273,307.00	Regular
Oklahoma State University	\$261,888.00	Regular
Oklahoma State University- Oklahoma City	\$346,401.00	Regular
Redlands Community College	\$301,205.00	Regular
Rogers State University	\$261,888.00	Regular
Rose State College	\$261,888.00	Regular
Seminole State College	\$261,888.00	STEM
Seminole State College	\$294,725.00	Regular
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	\$261,888.00	TeacherPrep
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	\$410,844.00	Regular
Southern Nazarene University	\$274,211.00	Regular
Tulsa Community College	\$261,888.00	Regular
University of Central Oklahoma	\$261,888.00	STEM
University of Central Oklahoma	\$261,888.00	ESL
University of Central Oklahoma	\$261,888.00	Disabled
University of Central Oklahoma	\$261,888.00	TeacherPrep
University of Central Oklahoma	\$261,888.00	Veterans
University of Central Oklahoma	\$233,434.00	Regular
Western Oklahoma State College	\$288,315.00	Regular

Total: \$9,012,439.00

Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (by program)

Adult Programs Cont.

EOC	Carl Albert State College	1675	\$590,346.00
	East Central University	1456	\$518,593.00
	Rogers State University	3204	\$639,824.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	1620	\$578,697.00
	Tulsa Community College	1000	\$273,793.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	1000	\$272,753.00
Total:		9955	\$2,874,006.00

VUB	East Central University	129	\$327,540.00
	Redlands Community College	125	\$286,616.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	125	\$297,601.00
Total:		379	\$911,757.00

McNair	East Central Oklahoma	28	\$293,616.00
	Oklahoma State University	25	\$261,888.00
	Southern Nazarene University	28	\$261,637.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	25	\$261,879.00
	University of Oklahoma	27	\$267,603.00
Total:		133	\$1,346,323.00

Secondary School

TS	American Indian Resource Center, Inc.	737	\$408,787.00
	Cameron University	775	\$417,727.00
	Carl Albert State College/Poteau	508	\$277,931.00
	Carl Albert State College/Poteau	687	\$381,114.00
	Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	500	\$277,375.00
	Northeastern State University	500	\$277,375.00
	Northeastern State University	500	\$277,375.00
	Oklahoma State University	500	\$277,375.00
	Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City	513	\$284,588.00
	Quality Educational Services for Today and Tomorrow, Inc.	500	\$277,375.00
	Rose State College	500	\$277,375.00
	Seminole State College	500	\$277,375.00
	Seminole State College	700	\$388,326.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State College	861	\$477,641.00
University of Central Oklahoma	500	\$277,374.00	
Total:		8,781	\$4,855,113.00

Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (by program)

Secondary School Programs Cont.

UB

Cameron University	66	\$352,757.00
Carl Albert State College	105	\$524,968.00
East Central University	60	\$297,300.00
East Central University	124	\$604,205.00
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	68	\$348,982.00
Northeastern State University	60	\$297,600.00
Northern Oklahoma College	62	\$297,601.00
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	61	\$297,601.00
Oklahoma City Community College	75	\$369,764.00
Oklahoma Panhandle State University	63	\$306,459.00
Oklahoma State University	60	\$318,328.00
Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City	78	\$404,000.00
Quality Educational Services for Today & Tomorrow, Inc.	63	\$312,480.00
Quality Educational Services for Today & Tomorrow, Inc.	63	\$312,480.00
Redlands Community College	64	\$340,947.00
Seminole State College	77	\$398,634.00
Seminole State College	52	\$297,601.00
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	60	\$297,601.00
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	110	\$567,061.00
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	85	\$450,677.00
University of Central Oklahoma	75	\$343,346.00
University of Oklahoma	63	\$144,478.00
Western Oklahoma College	74	\$366,431.00
Total:	1668	\$8,272,301.00

UBMS

Carl Albert State College	74	\$367,601.00
East Central University	66	\$353,550.00
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	61	\$297,601.00
Seminole State College	52	\$297,601.00
Seminole State College	52	\$297,601.00
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	68	\$350,157.00
University of Central Oklahoma	62	\$297,601.00
Total:	445	\$2,261,776.00

U.S. Congressional Delegation from Oklahoma



Senator Jim Inhofe
www.inhofe.senate.gov
202-224-4721
@InhofePress

Senator James Lankford
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Rep. Kevin Hern
District 1
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Rep. Markwayne Mullin
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Rep. Frank Lucas
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Rep. Tom Cole
District 4
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Rep. Stephanie Bice
District 5
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@RepBice

Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (By Congressional District)

District 1: Representative Kevin Hern

Tulsa Community College—SSS, EOC
 Northeastern State University-Broken Arrow —TS,UB

TRIO Programs 4
 Total No. of Students Served..... 1,725
 Total Amount Awarded\$1,110,656

District 2: Representative Markwayne Mullin

American Indian Resource Center, Inc.—TS
 Carl Albert State College—UB, TS (2), SSS, EOC, UBMS
 Choctaw Nation—TS
 Connors State College—SSS
 Eastern Oklahoma State College—SSS
 Murray State College—SSS
 Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College—UB, SSS
 Northeastern State University—TS , SSS
 Quality Educational Services for Today & Tomorrow, Inc.—UB (2),TS
 Rogers State University—EOC, SSS
 Southeastern Oklahoma State University—UB (2), TS, SSS(2), EOC,
 UBMS

TRIO Programs27
 Total No. of Students Served..... 13,283
 Total Amount Awarded\$10,403,476

District 3: Representative Frank Lucas

Langston University-- SSS
 Northern Oklahoma College—UB
 Northwestern Oklahoma State University—UB,
 SSS, UBMS
 Oklahoma Panhandle State University—UB
 Oklahoma State University—UB, TS, SSS, MS
 Redlands Community College—UB, SSS, VUB
 Southwestern Oklahoma State University—UB
 Western Oklahoma State College—UB, SSS

TRIO Programs 16
 Total No. of Students Served..... 1,984
 Total Amount Awarded \$4,876,708

District 4: Representative Tom Cole

Cameron University—UB, TS, SSS
 East Central University—UB (2), SSS (2), VUB, EOC, MS,
 UBMS
 Rose State College— TS, SSS
 University of Oklahoma—UB, MS

TRIO Programs..... 15
 Total No. of Students Served 3,933
 Total Amount Awarded \$5,100,788

District 5: Representative Stephanie Bice

Oklahoma City Community College—UB, SSS
 Oklahoma State University/OKC—UB, TS, SSS
 Seminole State College—UB(2), TS (2), SSS(2),
 UBMS(2)
 Southern Nazarene University—SSS, MS
 University of Central Oklahoma—UB, TS, SSS(6), EOC,
 UBMS, MS, TRIO Training, VUB

TRIO Programs..... 28
 Total No. of Students Served 5,789
 Total Amount Awarded \$8,339,688

2020 ODSA TRIO Achiever

Andrea Haddox

Andrea Haddox is a talented and inspiring young professional. She is an alumni of TCC and TRIO Student Support Services. She has been the recipient of many awards and scholarships during her academic career. These are some of her achievements and awards: TCC Faculty Association Scholarship Recipient 2015-2016, Jeannette Rankin Scholarship Recipient 2015-2018, Governor's Commendation 2016, Newman Civic Fellow Recipient 2016, Women in Transition Scholarship Recipient 2017, N.E.W. (National Education for Women) Leadership Program Attendee 2017, NSU Hall of Fame Inductee 2018 and the Oklahoma Summer Policy Institute 2018.



Andrea's leadership capabilities are evident by all the roles she was asked to fill during her academic career. She was President of Alpha Zeta Alpha Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) 2017-2018, a Presenter at the Great Plains Honor's Conference 2015, a Presenter at OU Tulsa Research Day 2015, a National Science Foundation - Community College Challenge Finalist 2015, completed an Honor's in Action Research Project on Food Deserts in Tulsa 2016, a Presenter at TCC Sustainability Seminar 2016, and a National Association of Social Worker OK Chapter MSW Rep 2018-2019.

Andrea Haddox earned her Associates of Applied Science, Pre-Social Work in 2016 from TCC and her Bachelor of Social Work in 2018 from NSU. She is currently working on her Master of Social Work at OU with a completion date of 2020.

All these impressive accomplishments were achieved, while Andrea worked as a restaurant server in the Tulsa area and as a work-study employee. She also worked for Family and Children's Services as a Recovery Support Specialist.

Since Andrea's graduation, she has written a grant to fund a non-profit in our city for the express purpose of helping those suffering from drug addiction. It is called SHOTS - Stop Harm on Tulsa Streets. She is the Executive Director responsible for managing all the internal data, planning, and maintaining grant goals.

2020 ODSA Scholarship Recipients

Walter O. Mason Scholarship
\$500.00: Nicholas Sayegh
Oklahoma State University -
Oklahoma City -- UB

Dr. Arnold Mitchem Scholarship
\$500.00: Brooke Mangold
Oklahoma State University -- SSS

\$200.00 Awards:

Yari Cabrera Westerheidy -- Tulsa Community College - SSS
Breanna Conrad -- Oklahoma City Community College - SSS
Jessica Cortez -- Oklahoma State University - SSS
Molly Esmond -- Northeastern State University - TS
Caroline Ola -- Tulsa Community College - SSS
Hannah Owens -- Northeastern State University - TS
Nicole Ryan -- Oklahoma State University - SSS
Casandra Salinas -- Oklahoma State University - SSS/McNair
Michelle Taylor -- Northeastern State University - TS
Collin To -- Cameron University - SSS
Bailey Vaught -- American Indian Resource Center, Inc. - TS



Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance

ODSA
2020-2021
Hall of Fame
Together, We Can

District 1

Zinash Desta
Tulsa Community College
Educational Opportunity Center



There are so many advantages and benefits since I participated in the TRIO/EOC program. First, TRIO/EOC has helped me to achieve my educational goals. I got assistance through TRIO/EOC to complete my Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). I did not have any clue on how to apply for it, but with the help of the TRIO/EOC staff, I was able to apply and benefit from FAFSA. Also, when I have any questions related to my education, I called and asked my TRIO/EOC academic counselor. He would always be ready to answer and assist with my questions. Second, being in the TRIO/EOC program, they helped provide scholarship opportunities and I was lucky to receive a scholarship to help pay towards my educational goal. This is a huge advantage of my participation in the TRIO/EOC program especially as a mother raising four children.

Andrea Gaytan
Tulsa Community College
Educational Opportunity Center



TRIO Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) is a program based on helping the academic needs of students at TCC. Without it, I could not have continued my higher education. TRIO EOC is a great resource to seek out for counseling, advice and help with navigating the college experience. I am a First Generation American; and there were questions I had about applying for college, along with completing the FAFSA application. I came from a low-income family, and TRIO EOC helps all students with all sorts of different financial backgrounds, barriers, disabilities and goals. TRIO EOC is always happy to assist me with resources that support my college education, and with any questions or advice on what my next steps may be. Thank You TRIO EOC! Now, I have gained a clear vision to overcome any barriers to get my college education.

District 1

Brittany Nunley Tulsa Community College Student Support Services

As the first to go to college in my family, I struggled with confidence in doing my work. I doubted myself so much that it made me struggle with my course work. I remember my Math professor telling me about the TRIO program. It was a place where I could get more one on one time with tutors and where I could feel safe and not alone while going through my courses. The counselor and tutors helped me so much that I became a work-study for TRIO SSS. I was elected President of the TRIO Student Association in 2017-2018. I became aware of myself and my studies. TRIO has taught me a lot that you are not just a number that has to walk alone, but a student destined for success. For this I am forever grateful for TRIO Student Support Services in helping me find my voice and confidence.



Joe Narro Tulsa Community College Student Support Services

As a student, whether straight out of high school, or in my case, returning after 40 years, if you want financial aid you must fill out the financial aid application. I sought out help from a great lady that worked with TRIO out of Rogers State University who I met while at the unemployment office in 2016. She helped me fill out my first financial aid application since coming back to school. At Tulsa Community College I solicited the help of TRIO SSS to help me with the next several financial aid applications that I would need to be **THE FIRST TO FINISH**. With the help of the very knowledgeable staff at TRIO SSS, I was able to overcome the barrier of limited computer skills. I am but just one example of the fact that TRIO WORKS.



District 1

Tiffany Zoller Tulsa Community College Student Support Services

Going to college never seemed like a goal that I could attain. The number of obstacles in my way were uncountable. Being a mother of three is not the recommended demographic of a college student, let alone the fact that nobody in my family had ever obtained a degree. This was a looming shadow on anything I could think to achieve. However, a light appeared that would allow me to achieve the greatness that I knew was there. That light was TRIO SSS, and without it, I would not have overcome the barriers in my academic life. The amount of tutoring available, the "always there for you" attitude, and the unrelenting assistance led me to graduate and become the best version of myself. TRIO SSS will be a memory that will live on with me till the end.



Brock Smith Northeastern State University - Broken Arrow Talent Search



The advantage of TRIO program to me was to help me stay focused on my college career. With so many students at my school going straight into a job from high school, as they got job training through Central Tech, it was hard to stay focused on the goal I was working towards. However the counselors of TRIO helped me achieve my dreams through college tours and letting me see beautiful campuses. They also gave good examples of the freedoms and fun of college life which many think isn't true. Finally the ETS staff has always backed up the plans I had and answered all questions I had about college or even life in general. To them I am eternally grateful.

District 2

Skylar Worley Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College Student Support Services

When I started back to school in 2016, nobody supported my decision. I was told that going back would put me into significant debt and would waste time. Previous attempts at educating myself had failed and I believed that life was never going to improve for myself or my family. TRIO provided needed support and as a result I have managed to receive in four short years since meeting these wonderful people, an Associates, a Bachelors, and two Masters degrees and am on track for LPC licensure this coming year. My wife has since returned to school as well and is halfway through the track to acquiring a PharmD. Once I am able, I plan to work toward a PhD, something I feel that I could not have managed without the support and guidance of this program at a time when I needed it most. I believe in myself now.



Whitney Kinder-Lacey Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College Student Support Services

I returned to college as a single mother working a full-time job. I did not know what to do; I only knew a degree would open doors that would help me to better support myself and my son. I knew, if I were willing to work hard, I could break the generational cycle of poverty. SSS was my haven, a quiet place to study and a resource for tutoring and counseling. I was also a math tutor for the program. SSS was my family at NEO A&M that gave me support and built my confidence enough to "spread my wings". I was named "Freshmen Top 10, served as Central District VP for PTK, and named one of the ALL-Oklahoma Academic Team. I finished two AA degrees at NEO A&M and went on to complete two BS degrees. SSS was an integral piece of not only my academic journey, but also learning "who I am."



District 2

Kylie Hix Northeastern State University Talent Search

Participating in ETS throughout school gave me so many opportunities that I would've missed out on without them. Growing up in a first generation family we didn't have the experience with college applications, FAFSA, or know what questions needed to be asked for prospective colleges. ETS taught me so many valuable lessons and gave me the knowledge necessary to now be an 18 year old sitting for my practical nursing NCLEX and starting the honors college at Oklahoma University in January 2021. I will always be grateful for the lessons I learned through ETS because I couldn't be where I am now without them.



Emma Chasteen Northeastern State University Talent Search

I have been in college for two and a half years, and I have had my fair share of barriers in getting an education. For starters, I come from a low income home where my parents cannot afford to help me pay for school. TRIO gave me awesome counselors to help navigate scholarships and grants to help me pay for school. When I got to campus, I needed a work study job, so I began working for our ETS office. Even though they are my bosses, the TRIO counselors remain a resource in my life for school, work, and life questions. TRIO helped me overcome those barriers in succeeding in college by providing me with knowledge to be able to go into the world on my own and know that I would be secure and ready for whatever comes my way. I am forever blessed for what my counselors and TRIO has done for me because I may not have made it to where I am with out them.



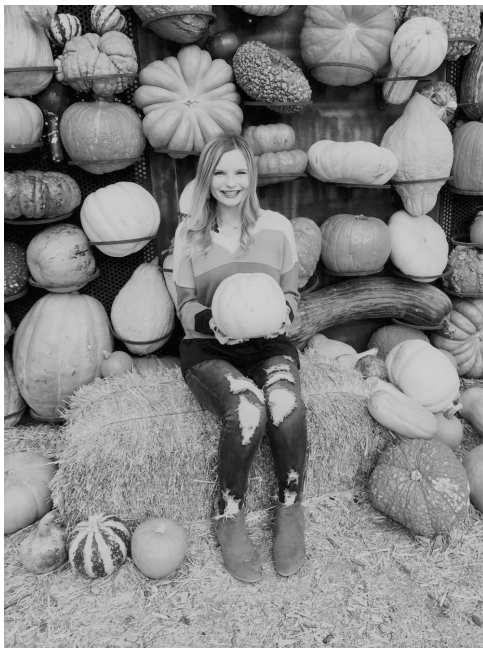
District 2

Jacob Cotrill Northeastern State University Talent Search

Throughout my high school career TRIO has provided many advantages in my life. TRIO helped me from the beginning to end by providing many opportunities. Something that was very helpful was when trying to decide what college to attend but also being interested in a vocational technology program. I went to vo-tech my junior and senior year because of the guidance of my TRIO counselor. After completing the program, they helped me make connections and locate scholarships to further my education at NEO A & M college in Constructions Management.



Jasmine Faye Wilson Southeastern Oklahoma State University Student Support Services



There are many advantages in being part of the Student Support Services, K-12 Teacher Preparation (Project Teach) at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Some include use of technology, educational workshops, fun and educational event experiences, on campus jobs, scholarship opportunities and so much more. Through this program, I have been able to attend professional workshops, learn about and visit various schools in different states and districts, attend local cultural events, attend guest speaker conferences, network with other educators, work with NASA education center, and so much more. Overall, I would not have succeeded as much if it were not for the TRIO program. If it were not for the staff in both Student Support Services and Project Teach, I would not be graduating in December. Project Teach has enhanced my university experience by preparing me for my future classroom with tools that I may not have been exposed to anywhere else.

District 2

James Lamar Jones Southeastern Oklahoma State University Student Support Services

A major advantage of being a participant of Project Teach is getting support in completing the FAFSA and applying for scholarships. Throughout my time in this program, I was awarded scholarships that went towards my school bill and books that I needed for my classes. The director of the program, Mrs. Darla, helped me fill scholarship applications out to make sure I did it well in hopes I would get picked. Applying for FAFSA is huge for a college student. When it was time to apply for FAFSA the entire Project Teach office worked to help me complete the complicated application and complete my financial aid file. I am where I am now because of this TRIO program. I am a SPED Inclusion Teacher at Dessau Middle School in Austin, TX. My advice to any student is to join the TRIO programs.



Stephanie D. Bryant Southeastern Oklahoma State University Student Support Services

The TRIO program that has helped me excel academically is Project: TEACH. The support of the staff has made a tremendous difference in my life. They provided guidance and assistance for my test prep. I truly believe that the reason I was able to pass my teaching certification exams on the first try was due to the advice and test taking strategies that I learned through the program. In addition to helping me prepare for those vital exams, they provided access to computers, printers, and even a book binder that helped me complete a project for a class. I know that much of my academic success is directly related to the Project: TEACH program. Without them, I would have been left scrambling trying to complete my work and maintain a balance as a student and a mother. I am beyond thankful for the assistance given by Project: TEACH.

District 2

Joe P. Jackson
Southeastern Oklahoma State University
Student Support Services

The program advisors went above and beyond counseling me on how to apply to graduate school as well as helping me find scholarships and grants. Their knowledge of how to get financial assistance to allow me to further my education with a Bachelor's degree in Biology really helped to remove some of the stress of college. Not only did they help with the financial aspect, but they were genuinely nice and cared about my situation. I really appreciate the work of the SSS Department at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.



District 3

Carver Sands Northwestern Oklahoma State University Upward Bound Math Science

When I first joined Upward Bound, I wasn't sure what to expect. I mainly joined because of the benefits I had heard of. My experience at summer camp was overwhelming at first. I was a very reclusive and shy teenager, so I was nervous about lodging with forty boys. Although I was withdrawn at first, by the second week I had started making friends. I wasn't expecting so many people to reach out to me, so this was a shock! One of the benefits of Upward Bound that I am grateful for is that it uses engaging activities and drew me out of my shell inch by inch. After the second week of camp, I was hooked! Upward Bound drew me out of my shell, which is why the program is dear to me.



Hailey Phillips Northwestern Oklahoma State University Upward Bound Math Science



Speaking from personal experience, TRIO has many wonderful advantages. It pulls kids out of their shells. It teaches them self-confidence and team-building skills. It allows them to make valuable connections to people who can help them succeed. On top of all of that, it assists kids on their college journeys. When I joined this program as a freshman, I was so shy and had no idea how to talk to anyone. College seemed like an intimidating and far away goal. However, because of TRIO, I met some of my closest friends and my communication skills improved. Living on campus gave me an idea of what college would be like and allowed me to become more independent. TRIO and its advantages have definitely helped shape the person I am today.

District 3

Alyssa Russell

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Upward Bound Math Science

Upward Bound has aided me throughout high school. Every Saturday session, they prepared me for the ACT and taught me the best methods to save time and improve my score. Guests spoke with us in later years and informed us of what college life would be like and what to expect. Over these four years, I met students from other schools that I might not have ever known if not for Upward Bound. This program made me very aware of how college can improve my life and offered help every step of the way, whether with school work or registering for the ACT. One of my favorite memories with Upward Bound was their STEM program. It was only around for a year, but it was one of the best things I ever did with them. We built circuits and a small robot that I still have to this day.



Trinaday Smith Northwestern
Oklahoma State University
Upward Bound



TRIO has helped me prepare and score higher on my ACT. They provide a handful of ACT prep classes every semester with important information that I haven't had the opportunity to get anywhere else. When I was struggling in math, they provided free tutoring to help me get my grades up. I started taking college classes my junior year, which were paid for. I have been able to save thousands of dollars with this amazing program and knock out over half of the credits I need to get my degree. I didn't think I'd be able to get enough scholarships to be able to go to college, but TRIO changed that. Whenever I need help they are just a call away and ready for whatever questions I shoot their way. I am so very grateful for the amazing people that work in our TRIO office.

District 3

Colton Parker Oklahoma State University McNair Scholars

During my time at Oklahoma State University, I thought I would be unable to participate in summer research, which I believe would expand my horizons. Before joining the McNair Scholars program, I did not have the financial support to live on campus during the summer to research my passion. With the McNair Scholars program's help, I expanded my horizons and encountered opportunities that many do not have access to take part in, and for that, I am forever grateful. TRIO has given me a community and stability to succeed. In addition, the program staff consistently encouraged me, along with my fellow scholars, to strive to be the best we could be and pushed us beyond what we believed were our limits. I cannot stress how much TRIO-McNair has changed my life and how much I owe them.



Cheyenne Daugherty Oklahoma State University McNair Scholars

One of the many barriers that I have faced while pursuing my education was resigning from the marching band. I came to OSU as a member of the OSU Cowboy Marching Band and was very passionate and devoted to playing the flute. During that time, I took classes for my microbiology degree and was attracted to the idea of having a career path that involved working in a research lab. After contemplating my career aspirations, I made the difficult decision to leave the marching band to focus on my academic endeavors. My mentors from the TRIO program SSS and McNair Scholars Program were supportive and offered me the advice and perspective to help overcome obstacles and pursue my research goals.



District 3

Casandra Salinas Oklahoma State University McNair Scholars

College is daunting to a first-generation low-income student. Nevertheless, TRIO programs have had such a positive impact on my personal and academic experience. Student Support Services has provided me with exceptional personal and academic career counseling and tutoring services very much needed. Additionally, I had the opportunity to become an undergraduate researcher due to my McNair Scholars program participation. This experience allowed me to present my research at regional, national, and international level conferences. As a McNair Scholar, not only did I develop my research and communication skills, but I gained a detailed understanding of the graduate application process. The 16-year-old Casandra would be ecstatic to realize all that she can do. Thanks to TRIO programs, there is still so much more to accomplish.



Mikala Mitchell Oklahoma State University Talent Search

Oklahoma State University Talent Search has helped me with college preparations and searching for different career paths. The three-day summer camp and trips throughout the school year helped the most. The trips were an opportunity to look at other career options and universities. While the summer camps had daily workshops and we got a tour of Oklahoma State University. Talent Search has helped me figure out where I want to go to college and what to pursue as a major. They also helped me learn about how to prepare for college. I will be a first-generation college student, and they were always accommodating in answering any questions I had. I am happy I got to be a part of Talent Search; it has been a great experience.



District 3

Abbi M. Avers Oklahoma State University Talent Search

Talent Search has provided me so much information about the college process that I would never have known if I had not been a part of this fantastic program. I have received unlimited amounts of information about the different scholarships available. I had no idea about the amount of money available to cover the expense of going to college! Talent Search has given me the tools and resources that will help me become a successful college student. It has made me curious, eager, and open to the possibilities that come after high school. Being involved in Talent Search early on has given me the advantage to think about different colleges and occupations. Without those critical Talent Search meetings and camps, I would not have the confidence that I have today in choosing my dream school.



Kohl Elliot Oklahoma State University Upward Bound

Upward Bound helped me excel academically by allowing me to take short, summer classes before attending the class in high school. Doing so enabled me to be more academically prepared for the curriculum that high school provides. A large portion of the education that I obtained in high school was review, for I had already taken the classes months before my fellow peers, which gave me more supplemental instruction to excel.

District 3

Laura Sadi Elisabeth Oswalt Oklahoma State University Upward Bound

I always had in my head that I was gonna fail in college. I thought I was gonna go in not knowing what to expect and I was gonna fail. However, after starting upward bound and being in it for 5 years I have successfully acquired all A's and B's through my summer college classes, along with my first semester of college! Upward bound has prepared me for college with a busy scheduled day for 5 weeks and then taking me places I never would have thought I would be able to go! Upward bound brought the college experience to me, so that I would know how to maintain my time well. Without upward bound I'm not sure how well I would have done this semester!



Kidist Beker Oklahoma State University Student Support Services

TRIO-SSS helped me with readjusting to college life after I had to take some time off from school. Coming back to school was an intimidating process that I was not prepared for on my own. Thankfully I had the TRIO-SSS program to rely on for resources like advising, mentorship, and a welcoming community of students that helped me become a better student and propel me towards success throughout my undergraduate career. Without the TRIO-SSS program, I do not think that I would have thrived as much as I did in school. The program truly changed my life for the better!

District 3

Aundrea Baker Oklahoma State University Student Support Services

As a first-generation college student, it was almost guaranteed college was not going to be easy. These past four years have challenged me in ways I never expected and done so quite frequently. With the stress of assignments, working the equivalent to a full-time job, and trying to successfully engage in my college experience, I am not ashamed to say I have fallen more than a couple times. However, I am proud to say, TRIO-SSS has been my saving grace every time. TRIO provides academic opportunities to ensure its students success through tutoring along with other resources. TRIO support staff helps keep you accountable not only in the classroom, but the mental health aspect too. Lastly, TRIO-SSS provides you with information and opportunities for student groups, cultural events, and numerous activities to get involved in. TRIO-SSS is a foundational support keeping OSU, loyal and true.



Noel Hernandez Oklahoma State University Student Support Services

TRIO-SSS has helped me out in all aspects of my college career. Coming to college as a first-generation student, I did not have much help with anything, but the one thing I did know was that my GPA mattered. I've been involved with this program since my first semester of college and I am thankful for the staff. They provide so many outside resources that will help you in all your classes and if they don't know how to help you, they will ask someone and get back to you with a perfect answer. Justin throughout my semesters would always push me to my limits when we spoke about academics and involvement which was something that I enjoyed. The mentoring and coaching continued nonstop throughout my years of college and because of this program, I am glad to say that I am a senior majoring in Construction Engineering Technology with a 3.74 GPA.



District 4

Amber T. Rivera Cameron University Student Support Services

I have a learning disability and an extreme anxiety. I was bullied in school by my special education teacher and students, as a result, I have PTSD; returning to school has been difficult. SSS taught me not all people and situations are the same. The SSS staff is kind, helpful and treat me like I am someone, not just another student. I have grown and overcome many obstacles. Ms. Alley, academic advisor, is easy to talk with I can be transparent with her, she understands it is not easy being a busy mom and juggling school. The tutors ensured that I understood, as a result of the help, I earned a B+ in Comp 1. Mrs. Dutton, freshman guidance specialist, provided many resources including a Thanksgiving meal. I never thought I would receive an honor such as this, because of SSS, I no longer feel as if graduation is impossible.



Juanita T. Redd Cameron University Student Support Services

My first day at Cameron was exciting and the campus was beautiful, but where was I supposed to begin? My niece informed me about the many services that Student Support Services provided for members. They provided guidance, counseling, mentoring and tutoring. They even had supplies to loan for students in need. I knew I had to become a member.

I am a nontraditional student, age 70 perusing a degree in psychology. All of the counselors are very helpful and kind. I shared my fears of learning algebra with my counselor and he directed me to the math lab. Mr. Martin McDowell met me with concern to help me in learning. He has been a vital person to help me succeed in algebra. I visit the SSS office for all my needs at Cameron. I am grateful to have TRIO on this journey with me. Student Support Services is wonderful!



District 4

Joseph D. McLendon
Cameron University
Student Support Services

How has TRIO benefited me? One of the first things it gave me was a chance at getting the help I needed to better handle my education such as the SSS Math Lab and the SSS Writing Lab. By using these, I was able to pass my classes which allowed me to pass each of my semesters. Another point I would like to mention is a thank you to the advisors who work there. I was able to find the best way to handle and manage my classes along with finding the major that was best suited for me. Thank you for your time. I look forward to continued services in my pursuit for education.



Rikki Hudnall
East Central University
Upward Bound

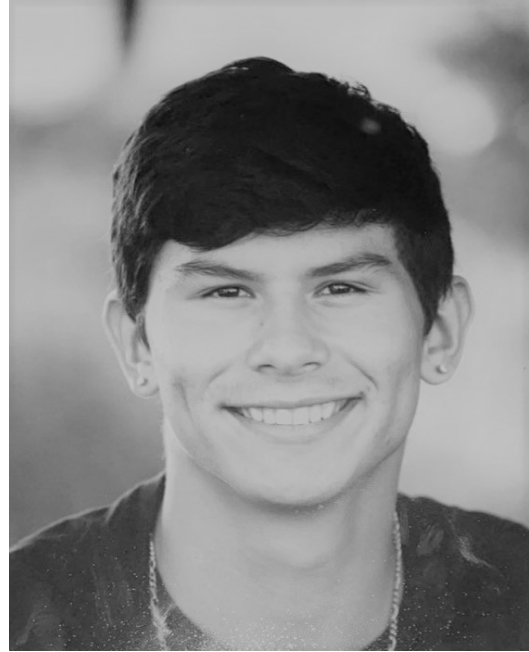
TRIO has been the greatest opportunity and experience I've ever received. When I started high school, I knew I had to start thinking about my future. Even though I had no idea how to accomplish my goals or even start working my way towards them. When Upward Bound was introduced to me, I didn't think much of it, but it's been so much more than I would have ever expected. I've gained amazing friendships and valuable information that school doesn't teach us. They've taught us how to raise our ACT scores, table etiquette, applying for college, making exceptional resumes, and overall how to be our best selves and accomplish anything we want. We've been introduced to many inspirational people that have taught us what continuing our education can do for us. I couldn't be more excited to go to college. I can honestly say, I'm definitely ready for it now.



District 4

Dylan J. Love East Central University Upward Bound

During my freshman year, a lady came to my classroom and talked to us about Upward Bound. She was telling us about all the academic help it offered. She then brought up all the trips and fun activities that they do, and that's what hooked me. Little did I know I would have the best years of my life participating in Upward Bound. I had a blast going on trips and attending classes during the summers. It made school so much easier because I had already learned about the topics from being in Upward Bound classes. Upward Bound not only allowed me to make new friends, but also allowed me to excel in my academics while having a blast going places I never imagined going. One day I hope to go back and be an RA during the summer and help more kids have a blast like I did!



Abby Carroll East Central University Upward Bound

I have found that participating in the TRIO program has provided numerous opportunities for myself and classmates. The program offers advantages such as academic enrichment, college mentoring, scholarship opportunities, career exploration, and more. The program is a great way to help prepare for your future, while also enjoying your time as a high school student. I have found participating in such opportunities to be helpful, as well as enjoyable. I am very thankful to have been given the opportunity to participate and enjoy the advantages TRIO has to offer.



District 4

Zackary Farnell East Central University Upward Bound Math Science

Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) has guided students, such as myself, to become greater and more versatile individuals. However, the most crucial advantage given to UBMS students is that the program connects us to the world. It has pushed me to be involved in the community and serve others, such as raising Alzheimer's awareness, organizing books at the library, and picking up trash on the campus of East Central University. While equipping me to become a college-bound student, UBMS has also given me skills for the real world. They taught me about finances and even how to repair small holes in clothing by sewing. Moreover, UBMS connects students to other events, such as OSU's Operation Orange program where students learn proper techniques for chest compressions; we even got to intubate manikins!



Jacob Farnell East Central University Upward Bound Math Science

I applied to Upward Bound Math and Science in the eighth grade, but I never expected the impact it would have on me. I was excited because I love school; little did I know it would satisfy my love to learn while serving others, smiling, and trying new things. UBMS has given me hundreds of opportunities to succeed academically and personally. With UBMS, I experienced new restaurants, theme parks, and even caves! These places allowed me to try new things. It also connected me with the community of Ada through volunteer work – my friends and I encouraged people to support Alzheimer's awareness by working at a snow cone stand and we reorganized the local library. I am very proud to be a member of TRIO because it has exposed me to new opportunities and prepared me for higher education, which will benefit me in an infinite number of ways.

District 4

Fabiola Bueno East Central University Upward Bound Math Science

Before I started my journey with Upward Bound Math and Science, I didn't know what I was going to do with my future. I didn't know college could be an option for me; it seemed an impossible dream. My first time on a college campus was at my first UBMS monthly visit and I listened to the UBMS staff talk about all the great opportunities awaiting me. They filled my toolbox with vital skills that will help me succeed throughout my academic career, and I will carry those with me for the rest of my life. Now I feel confident enough to utilize those skills to help other kids that think their disadvantaged backgrounds are a barrier they can't climb. Sometimes we just need a little push and that's what UBMS gave me: a steady foundation to build from and hope for my future.



Cory Baldinger East Central University Veterans Upward Bound



Veterans Upward Bound has been my main help and support. When I was attempting to go back to college, I still had to work and pay bills. Veterans Upward Bound assisted me with financial planning. They also helped with my FASFA, VA Bill benefits, enrollment and scheduling classes around my work schedule. They assisted with ordering transcripts, filing appeals to financial aid and everything I needed to get admitted. We looked into several schools and training options. They were always available and assisted me with the little things like printing off important papers or faxes, basically anything I needed. Of course, this doesn't cover everything I owe the office a big thanks. Another time I was looking for work and John recommended a vocational course, he had someone call me the next morning, and I got enrolled that day. The cybersecurity school was approved by unemployment, it became real for me that I was learning a new trade in the workforce. Today John and Angel are available for many kinds of help and information. We have a great relationship and lot could still be said about how they've helped me and I appreciated everyone at Veterans Upward Bound.

District 4

Jasmine Perez Rose State College Student Support Services

For me, TRIO has many advantages, from free tutoring to academic advisement, help with improving test scores, the mid-term reports, not to mention the different activities that you can participate in. The biggest advantage is being able to get feedback from my professors' on mid-term reports. It helps to keep me accountable. It allows me an opportunity to see how well I have been performing and if I need to improve. After multiple attempts at getting a degree (at multiple schools, in multiple states) I am now at the finish line of my program...and a big part of that is thanks to TRIO.



Hillary Hynson Rose State College Student Support Services

As a single mother of three, with my eldest son suffering with a chronic heart condition, and my youngest daughter recently diagnosed with Crohn's disease this fall semester, TRIO has helped me juggle between taking care of my children and pursuing my educational goals.

In addition to one-on-one tutoring, the staff has been of great encouragement and help towards my achievement of pursuing a bachelor's in Sociology. Ever since I decided on the career I want; TRIO came to my aid in ensuring I am the best version in my field of expertise as a student of Sociology. This is one reason TRIO why is perfect for me in achieving my dream. Through humble and kind encounters, TRIO has made me feel at home. With TRIO, most students have success stories. All I can say is long live TRIO!



District 4

Berth M. Adams
Rose State College
Student Support Services

TRIO Student Support Services has made a huge impact in my life and has helped me excel academically. This program has helped me overcome inadequacies, let go of self-doubt, and build confidence in myself and my abilities. It has empowered me to realize my academic goals, by providing guidance, support, mentoring, and tutoring. I realize now more than ever that I have the strength and capability to meet the challenges that I will encounter in college and in my future. I feel that it is because of TRIO that I am a great student. I know that I am qualified to conquer the next level of my journey. I will never forget all that TRIO and its amazing staff has done for me. They have helped change my life and it is with great gratitude that I feel that I can move forward.



District 5

Sydney Chanax
Oklahoma State University -
Oklahoma City
Student Support Services

The advantages of being in a TRIO program from me is the sense of community and the tutoring. I am a nontraditional college student. I am married and have a child but I'm very young. So it is difficult for me to make connections with people my age, or other moms. So it was a huge advantage for me to have a sense of community at OSU-OKC through project SOAR. After I had my son it was difficult to return to school. I had so much on my plate but I knew I had that community, especially Deborah to come back to and keep me rooted in school. Project SOAR also allowed me to participate in activities outside of class like a club but without the extraneous time constraints of a traditional club. Also the easy access to tutoring. The only reason I passed statistics is because of tutoring with Hayden. I am an extremely shy person and I was barely able to reach out to Hayden so I know I would not have been able to reach out to the tutors in LRC. So being in Project Soar is the only reason I was able to pass statistics.



Dalton Seaman
Oklahoma State University -
Oklahoma City
Student Support Services

The greatest tool in any person's arsenal to achieving their goals is the relationships they keep. Whenever I first started my college journey, the best thing that ever happened to me was becoming a member of Project SOAR. To have a team in your corner that is there to reassure you that you belong in college, you're not in over your head, and that you were meant for great things. They help you to overcome the task at hand. The staff there want to help you realize your potential and allow your excellence to flourish. Not everyone is blessed with the same opportunities, however, Project SOAR has served as the equalizer for the less fortunate. They make you feel like you belong somewhere, not just help you understand your coursework. I wouldn't have graduated without the help of Project SOAR. They brought out the best in me.



District 5

Tamala Young Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City Student Support Services

For me, the choice to go to college was not an easy one. When I graduated high school, my counselor encouraged me to pursue a college education but I never saw myself as a college student. Instead I felt that I had to go from part time to full time work so that I could help at home. I worked until I lost my sight in 2008. I had no idea what I would do with my life and I finally decided to go to school, not realizing how much technology had changed things. I heard that project soar was a resource available to OSU-OKC students with disabilities, when I met with them I found out that they also help first generation and low income college students. I hit the tri-fecta! The staff at project SOAR are there to guide and you along your path to success. They do not do the work for me but they help me figure out how to do it for myself and this is very important for me because I cherish my independence and the ability to accomplish my own goals. Their goal, like mine, is for me to be successful and they have all the resources to help me accomplish that goal.



Crystal Mckee Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City Student Support Services

Participating in a TRIO program gives students many opportunities to excel academically and in life. As a thirty-nine-year non-traditional student, I felt out of place when I returned to school and TRIO gave me an opportunity to socialize with other students, have fun, and gain a sense of belonging. TRIO has given me the academic support that I needed through tutoring, computer labs, printing, and simply a quiet place to study without distractions. I have received an empathetic ear from staff when times were tough, and meal assistance when I couldn't afford lunch. Additionally, TRIO has helped me with my resume, job searching, scholarships, and other useful resources in our community. The advantages of TRIO went beyond academics by giving me valuable life skills, the confidence to believe in myself, and the strength to persevere. Thank you for all that you do!

District 5

Alfredo Montoya Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City Upward Bound

As a kid, I was always told I needed to go to college in order to make a good living. I was not aware of what college does in peoples lives. TRIO has taught me the many benefits of college. Not only did TRIO teach me how to obtain a college degree, it has also helped me tear down the barriers that kept my emotions suppressed for a long time. TRIO helped me come out of my shell and inspired me to become more interactive with the people around me. The path I walked before I joined TRIO Upward Bound was not carefully planned. Today, I am prepared to set foot into the real world. All the guest speakers, college panels, summer program, and even the personal conversations I have with my counselors have helped me come to the decision of pursuing my life long goals.



DeZoria Williams Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City Upward Bound

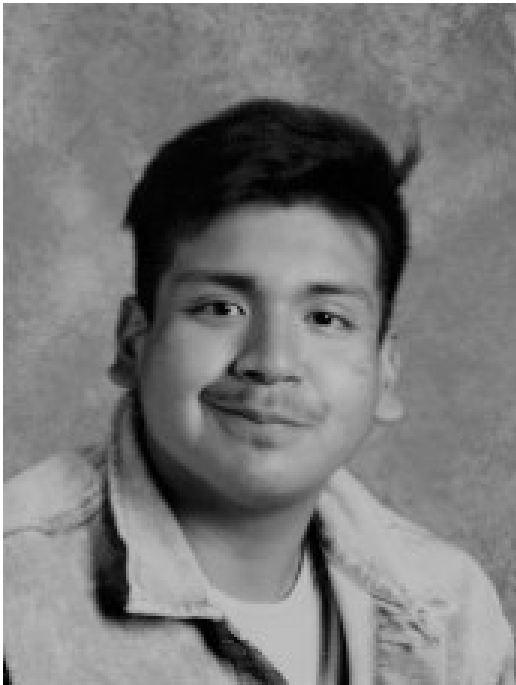
TRIO gave me a wider perspective of what I want to do in life. It has prepared me to attend college and helped me find out who I am. It has made me realize it is okay to be who I am and embrace it. TRIO has encouraged me to explore the world. This program gave me hope and a better outlook for my future. I am glad I found this program at the right time. It has given me support that some people can only dream of having. Without TRIO, I would be lost. I would have never thought of going to college or dream of having a better life. As a senior, I am closer to starting college and I know I am prepared for it because of this program. I am glad to have met new friends, a family, and people who are just like me.



District 5

Jose Velasco Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City Upward Bound

Growing up, I always knew I wanted to attend college. However, as a first-generation student, I didn't know much about the process. I joined Upward Bound my sophomore year. Little did I know, there were many great experiences in store for me. I have made new friends and met many new people. I have learned about college and things like credit. I've also had lots of fun going to trips and doing fun activities. OSU-OKC Upward Bound has had one of the biggest impacts on my life. It has provided so much support and has prepared me for college. I cannot thank everyone in the program enough for making such a positive impact on my life, especially Mrs. Ana, Mr. Kelso, and Mrs. Mitzi. I am sad this is my last year, but I know if I ever need help with something, I always have a family there for me.



Brandon J. Palma-Ninamango Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City Talent Search

The advantages of participating are really phenomenal! They care about you and your future, they will do everything they can to help you succeed on your goal! They have so much to offer it's awesome! If you ever need assistance on enrolling into any scholarships, they will assist you! They also take you out on field trips so they can expand your awareness on universities so you know you have tons of options!

District 5

Maricarmen Rosales Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City Talent Search

Some of the many advantages of participating in the TRIO program are the many different opportunities and services they offer. For instance, the college tour visits help students in exploring different options for colleges they can apply to. This helps students identify which college fits best for them and be able to be better prepared to apply to them. Also, in these college tours, they can build connections and start networking with different people. Another advantage is the workshops they offer to either prepare students for the ACT or teach them different study skills. The ACT workshops help students be more prepared for the ACT because they have many different tips and tricks to teach the students, which will help them get a good score on the ACT. Teaching students different study skills helps them become more prepared for their tests in any subject in school or college.



Juan R. Valdivia Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City Talent Search

Participating in Talent Search gives you an advantage over other students at your high school. The program helps you get ready for college by guiding you through the steps on how to apply for financial aid, scholarships and admission to college. They also make sure that you have opportunities to visit colleges in and out of state.

District 5

Alexandria Faith Jackson
University of Oklahoma
McNair Scholars

TRIO will change your life. I know because it has changed mine. From the moment I was accepted into the McNair Scholars Program I knew I was a part of something extremely special. I was immediately surrounded by incredible scholars in every field. For the first time at my PWI I felt important, I felt respected for my intelligence, and I felt accepted. Conducting research was a phenomenal experience that introduced me to more amazing people in field which has tremendously developed my professional network. TRIO has challenged me to grow, given me confidence in my pursuit for higher education, and it has set me on a path to be the best educator I can be.



Miguel A. Chavez
University of Oklahoma
McNair Scholars

My lived experiences have largely informed the types of questions that I'm interested in exploring through my sociological inquiry. Throughout my undergraduate career, I feel as if I was steadily made privy to an ever-expanding world of scholarly possibilities, which long eluded me as a first-generation, low-income college student. I gained my first opportunity to conduct research through the McNair Scholars Program where I had the opportunity to learn and grow alongside students who, like me, were stimulated to creatively tackle problems and ultimately change the world. Through these experiences, I was able to transform the angst caused by my personal obstacles into a persistent fervor and commitment towards disrupting unjust systems of oppression. For this reason, I have continuously focused on uplifting and showcasing the stories of historically marginalized communities through all of my academic endeavors.



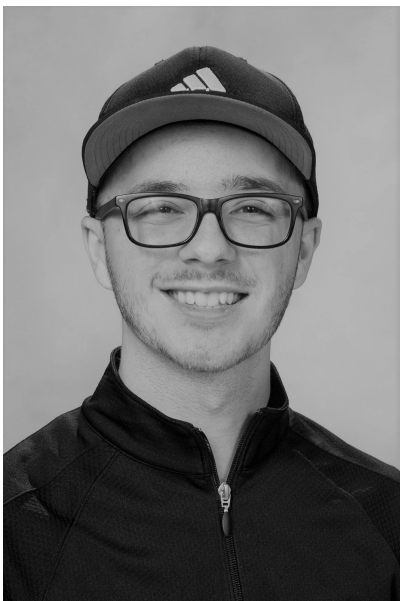
District 5

Amber Young University of Central Oklahoma McNair Scholars

During my time at UCO I majored in Applied Mathematics. I was always the only Black student in my upper-level math classes, and I never felt like I had a community or anyone to relate to. Also, unlike the other math majors I was a first-generation student. When I became a McNair scholar, I finally found my community. I was around individuals who had the same background as me and who were trying to succeed. Being in that environment gave me confidence and encouraged me to attend graduate school. Now, I just successfully finished my first semester of a PhD program in Mathematics at the University of Tennessee. I still talk to the other scholars, and I have found my community.



Kody Long University of Central Oklahoma McNair Scholars



For many of the students who qualify to be a part of a TRIO program, including myself, we struggle with a lack of effective mentoring and guidance that can propel us to the successful pursuit of our goals. We think big and dream boldly, but we cannot thrive on positive thoughts alone. TRIO programs serve as a lifeline for us in countless ways, including providing informed guidance, helping to build our skillset, and even providing scholarships to help overcome financial barriers. In my own experience, TRIO helped me to understand graduate school in ways that effectively prepared me to enjoy and succeed within it. Additionally, TRIO helped mold my research skills into such that I can sufficiently contribute knowledge to society via publications and outreach. TRIO provides direction and knowledge that students can hold onto for life, and I will forever be grateful for where TRIO has taken me.

District 5

Candace Huitt
University of Central Oklahoma
McNair Scholars

Being first generation, I have had many obstacles I have had to overcome. I jumped into college with the drive to make something of myself but not knowing the requirements and how to navigate the resources I need to succeed. TRIO has helped me with these barriers by encouraging me through hard times, exposing and mentoring through my research, and financial assistance with scholarships opportunities. They have also helped me with networking and meeting new people, as well as other useful resources and possible graduate schools. TRIO has not only helped me with these barriers but has created an environment where I have made new friends. I am very grateful to TRIO for all their help and support.



Purmonie Chateram
University of Central Oklahoma
Talent Search

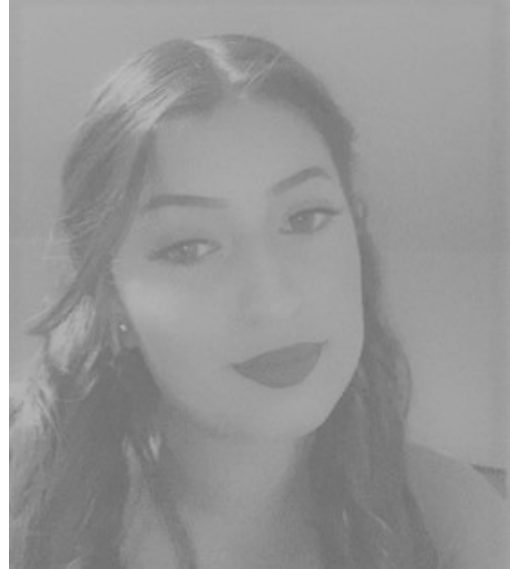


TRIO has helped me academically and taught me how to utilize resources necessary to be admitted into the best fit college for me. I truly believe TRIO helped me get ready for college. I've encountered a lot of pressure trying to learn how to set goals, but the UCO TRIO Talent Search program helped me overcome this pressure by teaching me to focus. I've also learned basic financial literacy and budgeting strategies for college and life after college. I will use what I learned and teach these skills to others in need. I really enjoyed attending the Student Leadership Conferences, visiting colleges in states I've never been, and getting out of the house to do a lot of fun activities! TRIO has really motivated me in a way that is unexplainable. Now, I believe I can go to college. I have what it takes. I just have to put my mind to it. I am very proud and grateful for being apart of UCOTRIO Talent Search program.

District 5

Laisha De Leon University of Central Oklahoma Talent Search

I will be the first to graduate high school in my family! This program has made an impacted in so many ways. The biggest impacted to me in UCO Talent Search is having a team on my side that wants me to succeed and accomplish my goals. UCO Talent Search really wanted me to achieve my goal of becoming the first college graduate in my family. One barrier of mine was learning how to speak English. It was tough learning how to figure things out on my own. Learning how to fit in and keeping up with students in my class was another barrier. I felt the other students had an overwhelmingly academic head start. I had to fight through this feeling everyday. I also lost my grandmother my sophomore year of high school. The UCO TRIO family helped me work harder and taught me to believe in myself. This helped me to never give up and to continue to strive for my goals through whatever life throws at me. I feel that the scariest thing young people go through is figuring out what steps to take for their future. TRIO helped me gain the knowledge and support I needed for the path I decide to take for college. What UCO Talent Search teaches is not only for college. I will be able to carry this knowledge with me after college for the rest of my life. I would like to thank everyone in TRIO for helping me choose the path for my future. I hope many more students benefit from the same experiences I had and join the TRIO family.



Javeon Yarbrough University of Central Oklahoma Upward Bound Math Sciece

TRIO has been one of the best things to happen in my high school career. I have been exposed to many things by being in the University of Central Oklahoma's Upward Bound Math-Science Program. The exposure has helped me grow a lot. UBMS has exposed me to new relationships, perspectives, and opportunities. I have met many people with the same interests as me, and I have learned a lot from them. From those relationships, I have gained new perspectives that have given me a chance to see other views and work with them whenever needed. The opportunities I have been able to have by being in Upward Bound Math-Science has led me to the path of college. At first, I wasn't sure about college, but I realized it's the route for me after being in the program.



District 5

Tiffany Torres
University of Central Oklahoma
Upward Bound Math Science

Many advantages are offered to students who participate in a TRIO program. I have been lucky enough to experience such benefits first hand. I couldn't even begin to guess how many hours the wonderful staff has spent making sure each student has what they need to succeed. They have shown us doors that we didn't even think existed, stood by our side, and became a home away from home for many. Before joining UCO's Upward Bound Math & Science, I thought that the only way for me to go to college was to enlist into the military and take whatever job they gave me. However, after I met Ms. Scott, my entire point of view changed. I found out there were so many opportunities available for me if I only applied myself. Ms. Scott, Ms. Riley, and Ms. Hampton have spent so much time making sure that everything we even think about doing was within our reach. There seems to be no limit with TRIO. They have shown me and countless others that we are worth the time and effort. On top of all that, the program has become a part of my support system. Whether they are a student or staff member, everyone in the program is part of one big family; and we always have each other's back.



Diego Perez-Avendano
University of Central Oklahoma
Upward Bound Math Science



The experience and knowledge the program provides to students is the most important advantage since we may not be able to get it anywhere else. The campus tours provide information that deals with many schools, and with that information, one can make a better decision on what schools they want to apply to. While staying on the University of Central Oklahoma's campus during the summer program, I experienced what campus life is like. The summer classes given were on subjects that many of my program mates and I might see later on in high school, which can help us maintain skills that would otherwise fade during summer. Overall, Upward Bound Math & Science is a good program that any high school student interested in STEM could benefit from.



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