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Acknowledgements

The Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance (ODSA) TRIO Booklet Committee is pleased to present the 2021-2022 edition of the Oklahoma TRIO Fact 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 2022

<i>TRIO Program</i>	<i>Funding FY 2022</i>	<i>Number of Projects</i>	<i>Number of Participants</i>
Upward Bound	\$366,203,750	1,023	73,994
Talent Search	\$190,714,400	552	350,730
Student Support Services	\$367,195,716	1,162	209,286
Veterans Upward Bound	\$20,557,756	65	8,598
Educational Opportunity Centers	\$63,886,164	183	218,953
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Programs	\$56,378,254	206	5,677
Upward Bound Math Science	\$73,699,494	241	14,963
TRIO Training Programs for Federal TRIO Programs	\$3,879,211	12	3,334 <i>(number of staff trained)</i>
TOTAL	\$1,142,514,745	3,444	885,535

Total Funding\$1,142,514,745

Total Number of Awards3,444

Total Number of Participants885,535

**Oklahoma TRIO
Funding Totals FY 2022**

TRIO Program	Funding FY 2022	Number of Projects	Number of Participants
Upward Bound	\$8,998,767	25	1,793
Talent Search	\$4,855,113	15	8,781
Student Support Services	\$9,012,439	30	5,053
Veterans Upward Bound	\$1,210,279	4	504
Educational Opportunity Centers	\$3,311,240	8	10,795
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Programs	\$1,329,607	5	131
Upward Bound Math Science	\$2,261,776	7	448
TRIO Training Programs for Federal TRIO Programs	\$1,222,761	4	1200
TOTAL	\$31,102,012	98	28,705

Total Funding \$31,102,012

Total Number of Awards 98

Total Number of Participants 28,705

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 five 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 2022:

Awarded	\$8,998,767
Number of Awards.....	25
Number of Participants.....	1,793

National UB Funding, FY 2022:

Awarded	\$366,203,750
Number of Awards.....	1,023
Number of Participants.....	73,994

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 five 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 2022:

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

National TS Funding, FY 2022:

Awarded	\$190,714,400
Number of Awards.....	552
Number of Participants	350,730

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 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 collegiate studies.
- 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 (Disabled, Veterans, Teachers, etc.).

Oklahoma SSS Funding, FY 2022:

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

National SSS Funding, FY 2022:

Total Awarded	\$367,195,716
Number of Awards	1,162
Number of Participants	209,286

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 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
- 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 2022:

Awarded\$1,210,279
Number of Awards..... 4
Number of Participants 504

National VUB Funding, FY 2022:

Awarded \$20,557,756
Number of Awards..... 65
Number of Participants 8,598

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 five 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 2022:

Awarded \$3,311,240
Number of Awards8
Number of Participants.....10,795

National EOC Funding, FY 2022:

Awarded \$63,886,164
Number of Awards 183
Number of Participants.....218,953

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 2022

Awarded \$1,329,607
Number of Awards 5
Number of Participants 131

National McNair Funding, FY 2022:

Awarded \$56,378,254
Number of Awards 206
Number of Participants 5,677

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 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, 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 five 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 2022:

Awarded	\$2,261,776
Number of Awards	7
Number of Participants.....	448

National UBMS Funding, FY 2022:

Awarded	\$73,699,494
Number of Awards	241
Number of Participants.....	14,963

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 2022

Awarded \$1,222,761
Number of Programs Awarded 4
Number of Staff Trained 1,200

National TRIO Training Funding, FY 2022

Awarded \$3,879,211
Number of Programs Awarded 12
Number of Staff Trained 3,334

National Comparisons By Fiscal Year

TRIO Program	FY Year	Funding	Projects	Participants
Upward Bound	FY 2022	\$366,203,450	1023	73,994
	FY 2021	\$335,817,181.94	966	70,744
	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
Talent Search	FY 2022	\$190,714,400	552	350,730
	FY 2021	\$184,987,311	530	340,427
	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
Student Support Services	FY 2022	\$367,195,716	1,162	209,286
	FY 2021	\$363,222,465	1,149	207,699
	FY 2020	\$365,918,070	1,156	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
Veterans Upward Bound	FY 2022	\$20,557,756	65	8,598
	FY 2021	\$18,815,149	60	7,898
	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

National Comparisons By Fiscal Year, continued from previous page

TRIO Program	FY Year	Funding	Projects	Participants
Educational Opportunities Center	FY 2022	\$63,866,164	183	218,953
	FY 2021	\$61,412,887	170	209,735
	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
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program	FY 2022	\$56,378,254	206	5,677
	FY 2021	\$49,824,230	187	5,242
	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
Upward Bound Math Science	FY 2022	\$73,699,494	241	14,963
	FY 2021	\$64,843,908	212	13,184
	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
TRIO Training Programs <i>*# of programs</i> <i>^# of staff trained</i>	FY 2022	\$3,879,211	12*	3,334^
	FY 2021	\$2,824,292	10*	2,368^
	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^
TOTAL	FY 2022	\$1,142,514,745	3,444	885,535
	FY 2021	\$1,081,747,423.94	3,284	857,297
	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

Oklahoma Comparisons By Fiscal Year

TRIO Program	FY Year	Funding	Projects	Participants
Upward Bound	FY 2022	\$8,998,767	25	1,793
	FY 2021	\$8,064,168	23	1,668
	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
Talent Search	FY 2022	\$4,855,113	15	8,781
	FY 2021	\$4,855,113	15	8,781
	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
Student Support Services	FY 2022	\$9,012,439	30	5,053
	FY 2021	\$9,012,439	30	5,053
	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
Veterans Upward Bound	FY 2022	\$1,210,279	4	504
	FY 2021	\$922,742	3	379
	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

Oklahoma Comparisons By Fiscal Year, continued from previous page

TRIO Program	FY Year	Funding	Projects	Participants
Educational Opportunity Centers	FY 2022	\$3,311,240	8	10,795
	FY 2021	\$3,079,191	7	9,945
	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
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program	FY 2022	\$1,329,607	5	131
	FY 2021	\$1,218,323	5	133
	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
Upward Bound Math Science	FY 2022	\$2,261,776	7	440
	FY 2021	\$2,261,776	7	445
	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
TRIO Training Programs	FY 2022	\$1,222,761	4	1,200
	FY 2021	\$250,601	1	300
	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 2022	\$31,102,012	98	28,705
	FY 2021	\$29,664,353	91	26,704
	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

Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (by program)

	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
SSS	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	\$500,864.00
	Northeastern Oklahoma State University	850	\$232,050.00
	Oklahoma City Community College	850	\$232,049.00
	Rogers State University	2344	\$639,912.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	1620	\$578,697.00
	Tulsa Community College	1000	\$273,793.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	1000	\$263,529.00
	Total:	10,795	\$3,311,240.00
VUB	East Central University	129	\$327,540.00
	Redlands Community College	125	\$297,601.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	125	\$297,601.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	125	\$287,537.00
	Total:	504	\$1,210,279.00
McNair	East Central Oklahoma	28	\$293,316.00
	Oklahoma State University	25	\$261,888.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	25	\$261,888.00
	Southern Nazarene University	28	\$261,637.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	25	\$250,878.00
	Total:	131	\$1,329,607.00

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
	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	\$277,375.00
	Quality Educational Services for Today and Tomorrow, Inc.	500	\$284,588.00
	Rogers State College	500	\$277,375.00
	Rose State College	500	\$277,375.00
	Seminole State College	700	\$277,375.00
	Seminole State College	500	\$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.

	Cameron University	66	\$352,757.00
	Carl Albert State College	110	\$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	\$304,754.00
	Oklahoma State University	60	\$318,328.00
UB	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	\$287,537.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	60	\$297,601.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	110	\$567,061.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	60	\$287,537.00
	Southwestern Oklahoma State University	85	\$450,677.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	75	\$364,346.00
	University of Oklahoma	63	\$297,575.00
	Western Oklahoma State College	74	\$366,431.00
	Total: 1793		\$8,064,168.00
	Carl Albert State College	77	\$367,665.00
UBMS	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	62	\$297,601.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	68	\$350,157.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	62	\$297,601.00
	Total: 448		\$2,261,776.00

U.S. Congressional Delegation from Oklahoma



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Rep. Stephanie Bice
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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 \$1,110,657

District 2: Representative Josh Breechen

American Indian Resource Center, Inc.—*TS*
 Carl Albert State College—*UB, TS(2), SSS, EOC, UBMS*
 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, EOC*
 Quality Educational Services for Today & Tomorrow, Inc.—*UB(2), TS*
 Rogers State University—*SSS, EOC, TS*
 Southeastern Oklahoma State University—*UB(4), TS, SSS(2), EOC, UBMS, MS*

TRIO Programs31
 Total No. of Students Served 13,526
 Total Amount Awarded \$11,472,858

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 1,982
 Total Amount Awarded \$4,885,972

District 4: Representative Tom Cole

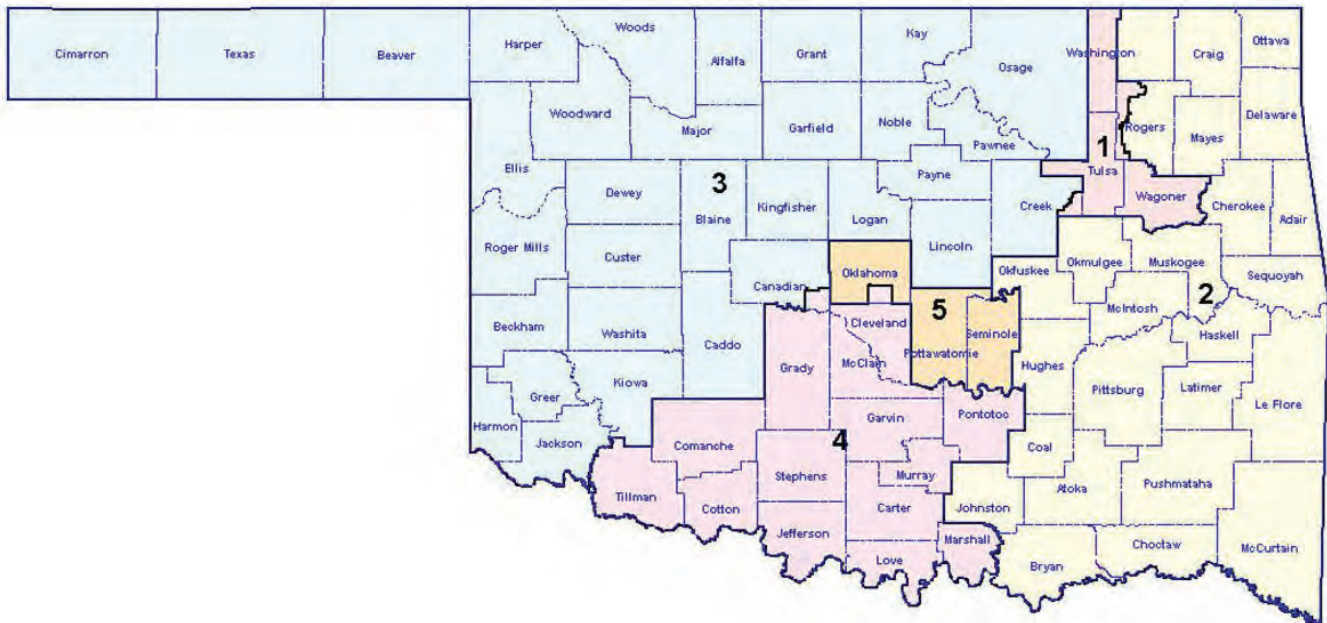
Cameron University—*UB, TS, SSS*
 East Central University—*UB(2), SSS (2), VUB, EOC, MS, UBMS*
 Rose State College— *TS, SSS*
 University of Oklahoma—*UB*

TRIO Programs 14
 Total No. of Students Served 3,906
 Total Amount Awarded \$4,889,316

District 5: Representative Stephanie Bice

Oklahoma City Community College—*UB, SSS, EOC*
 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(4), VUB(2)*

TRIO Programs 33
 Total No. of Students Served 7,629
 Total Amount Awarded \$9,715,922



Congressional District & Representative	# of TRIO Programs	# Students Served	Funding Totals
1: Representative Kevin Hern	4	1,725	\$1,110,656
2: Representative Josh Breechen	31	13,526	\$11,472,858
3: Representative Frank Lucas	16	1,982	\$4,885,972
4: Representative Tom Cole	14	3,906	\$4,889,316
5: Representative Stephanie Bice	33	7,629	\$9,715,922
Total	98	28,705	\$31,102,012

2022 ODSA TRIO

Achiever



Seth Fairchild

TRIO Program: Upward Bound Math Science

When I think about the purpose of the TRIO programs, I can't help but think of the students that went through this program alongside me. We were teammates and friends that shared a similar background. A background that statistics said could prevent us from gaining the skills and motivation necessary to reach our full potential. I don't know if we realized it or not, but Upward Bound Math-Science was an opportunity to change the trajectory of our lives.

Over the years, I have seen many UBMS classmates attend college and be successful in their careers and accomplish the mission of the TRIO programs. But beyond that, I have also seen my classmates become mothers and fathers, break negative family cycles, and exceed expectations in every achievable way. I genuinely believe TRIO played an essential role in helping make these possible.

I feel personally connected to the TRIO programs and have many special memories of those summers spent on the campus of our local university, Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Perhaps the strongest was watching the impact those summers had on my older brother, who was diagnosed at a young age with Cerebral Palsy. This diagnosis meant that life would be more difficult in many ways though he would tell you it made him stronger. In UBMS, I saw him make lifelong friends, develop a support system, and help him reach beyond what many thought would be achievable. But most importantly, I believe it helped instill the confidence necessary to make these possible.

UBMS did for me exactly what it did for my classmates and friends. It made us start believing in ourselves. TRIO put a team of counselors, teachers, staff, and mentors around us that believed in our success and invested in our futures.

2022 ODSA

Scholarship Recipients

Walter O. Mason Scholarship \$500.00:

Austin Savage

Talent Search

Northeastern Oklahoma State University

Dr. Arnold Mitchem Scholarship \$500.00:

Shelly Barton

Student Support Services

Tulsa Community College

\$200.00 Awards:

Aliah Barrows - Northeastern Oklahoma State University, Talent Search

Zeya Bartlett - Oklahoma State University, Student Support Services

Ricardo Cortez - Oklahoma State University, Student Support Services

Emma Dilbeck - Southern Nazarene University, Student Support Services

Arturo Elias - Southern Nazarene University, Student Support Services

Yasmin Flores - Oklahoma State University, Student Support Services

Haylie Kousman - Cameron University, Upward Bound

Ashlynn McCoy - Rose State College, Student Support Services

Breanna Pursley - Cameron University, Student Support Services

Nicholas Scott - Tulsa Community College, Student Support Services

2022-2023

ODSA

Hall of Fame

Equity in

Education

District 1



Jonica King
Student Support Services
Tulsa Community College

There are many advantages of participating in the TRIO SSS program including advisors, workshops, tutoring, and networking. The TRIO SSS advisors offered assistance in many areas that helped me complete the steps that I needed to succeed. The workshops that TRIO SSS offers have excellent advice that is great for the real world and college life. The tutors help students feel confident in their assignments and help the students learn when they are struggling in an area. The TRIO SSS program at TCC has an amazing relaxation station and a break-room that is a wonderful place to meet other TRIO SSS students and connect with others who may be in similar situations.

Kelly Parsley
Student Support Services
Tulsa Community College

TRIO SSS has been there, in some form, for every barrier I've encountered while on my educational journey. TRIO's daily access to tutors helped me face my fear of math and gave me the confidence to conquer my math courses head on. Simple things, like school supplies and calculators, created one less thing I had to worry about buying. The TRIO Learning Center provides me a peaceful and welcoming environment to grab a snack or study for hours. Most importantly, the people. Walking into my TRIO office feels like home. The sense of a home when you know what it feels like to not have one, means the world. The problems TRIO cannot directly solve, like childcare or home issues, are soothed through the genuine cares of my TRIO family. Being a part of that family has enhanced my life and inspired me to enrich others on my quest for excellence.



District 1



Mary Harris
Student Support Services
Tulsa Community College

This world is loud with stress, selfishness, and exclusion. It was hard to find serenity outside of my home. TRIO SSS has been a safe place for me to relax and unwind. The TRIO SSS staff has always shown me respect and given me encouragement. It has been a place to meet a diverse group of students who have some of the same barriers that I have. Within TRIO SSS, we face those barriers together as a family. Getting to know the TRIO SSS staff and students has given me nostalgia of my great aunt's sweet embrace. It's refreshing to my soul to have a place that feels like home. That refreshing feeling propels me to give my best efforts daily. TRIO SSS is a community I can count on for support, tutoring, a quick snack, and so much more.

Nicole Eddy
Educational Opportunity Center
Tulsa Community College

Being surrounded by individuals like myself who are returning to their education after stepping away for some time. This can look many ways like addiction and recovery as well as medical issues and nontraditional students. For me personally, I work two jobs to provide for my family. I'm a recovering addict who is celebrating 11 years clean and sober, and a 1st time college student at 42. The advantages are all the support you receive while growing and furthering your education and goals both personally and professionally.



District 1



Catalina Romero
Educational Opportunity Center
Tulsa Community College

One of the advantages of participating in a TRIO program is the support. The support you have with just being the program is amazing. Each staff member there has your back and wants you to succeed. You are put up for success and you have a team behind you, rooting for you and your journey. It is amazing.

Dominic White
Educational Opportunity Center
Tulsa Community College

Amongst society, there is a common saying - "It's not what you know, but who". With the help of the Trio Program, you have someone to advocate for you, sit down with you and get to know you on a more personal basis so that a plan of action can be implemented for your better assistance. Whether you be a first-time student, transfer student, or need a point in the right direction for not only financial aid and records assistance, but many supplementary resources as well. You have people who are there to help you, make on-boarding and application processes faster and more efficient, and be there every step of the way. From just the desire to leave no stone unturned, and utilize all resources and benefits available to you, you get scholarship leads and a better understanding of your educational and career goals. TRIO makes a difference!



District 2



Connie Fines
Educational Opportunity Center
Carl Albert State College

As a non-traditional student coming back to school was scary. EOC was one of the first offices I encountered, and they were so knowledgeable and helpful. I handed them my information and it seemed like a matter of seconds, and they were telling me I was approved for full PELL. They also sent me out with a variety of resources to help me.

In the last 6 years EOC started a journey with me and has continued to support my journey. This year my daughter started her first year of college and EOC has been there for her also. EOC has been there to help and encourage me to make a difference in my life and today I find comfort in knowing they are there helping and guiding my daughter too.

Brooklyn Cheromiah
Student Support Services
Carl Albert State College

Being apart of SSS has helped me financially by offering tuition free classes and so much guidance for me as a first generation college student.



District 2



Johnny Brummett
Student Support Services
Carl Albert State College

There are many advantages to participating in a Trio program. For me, the most important advantage was the support and structure. Having been out of school for quite a while, Student Support Services allowed me to focus on my educational goals while giving me a guideline to help me succeed. The monthly grade checks and meeting with my advisor allowed me to make sure I was always on top of my schoolwork. I think I owe a lot of my success to the support provided by the Trio Program.

Marisol Lockhart
Talent Search
Carl Albert State College



I believe there are many advantages to participating in a TRIO program. For me personally, I would never have had the opportunity to attend college if it wasn't for members of the Trio program that informed & guided me. I was in high school when they came and told us that college was not only for everyone but could also be affordable. Both my parents never completed middle school nor did they speak much English. I had accepted a long time ago that college was not something my family could afford so it was something that was never in my plans, until that afternoon. For students like myself that don't have the guidance and/or resources, the possibilities that TRIO offers are endless. Not only do they help students find educational opportunities but they also help you succeed in the career of your choosing with many student assistance programs.

District 2



Sydney Davison
Upward Bound
Carl Albert State College

TRIO opened the door to many advantages. TRIO helped me understand the value of college and how to navigate that world. This is something I would have never received without Upward Bound. Before Upward Bound I was not entirely sure what college was or if I had that option. When it came to college I was terrified. TRIO gave me both a support system and a way of gaining the knowledge I needed to survive in an academic life. It was a way to find resource, understand material, and have help when it felt like I was alone.

Mohoagney Johnson
Student Support Services
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College

Student Support Services has a lot of advantages for students with tutoring, class scheduling, and community services. My advice for students that are part of the TRIO SSS program is to take their resources seriously so it can help them not only be successful in the program, but in the college courses as well.



District 2



Ashley Gonzalez
Student Support Services
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College

Being a first-generation, low-income student and child of Mexican immigrants, I witnessed my widowed mother struggling to raise five kids under the age of fourteen, getting up at 7 am and coming home at midnight some nights due to overproduction and factory irregular hours. My mother was not fortunate enough to continue her education past sixth grade due to her parent's inability to afford her high school education. Once she migrated to the United States to provide us with opportunities she was deprived of, I knew in my heart that I wanted to compensate my mother for all her sacrifices.

In high school, NEO Upward Bound jump started the journey of higher education. The program taught me high school fundamentals, tutoring assistance, FAFSA and scholarship assistance, and cultural trips that will forever hold unforgettable memories!!! Being an Upward Bound alumni is something I am incredibly proud to say because if it wasn't for that program, my reality now would not be my current reality. Upward Bound broadened my horizons and demonstrated that I could go to college, graduate, and give back to my mother for all the sacrifices and endless hours of hard work.

Moving along into NEO college, Student Support Services are the biggest cheerleaders anyone could ask for during uncharted waters. The program is a supportive and safe place with people in your corner who understand and are more than willing to help navigate the daunting journey of higher education by your side. College for first-generation students is not easy and can be a lonely experience without the encouragement and services of the Student Support Services staff. If not for their support and encouragement along the way, I probably wouldn't have had the confidence to proceed further than my associates, let alone a master's degree.

I am proud to state that in May of 2022, I graduated and was awarded a Magna Cum Laude bachelor's in Social Work, making me the first in my family to have a bachelor's degree. Words cannot express how much credit I give to TRIO for all my success. I am in my last semester as an advanced standing graduate student at Northeastern State University Masters Social Work program in hopes of becoming a licensed clinical social worker, in May 2023. TRIO has motivated me to continue to excel and be that cheerleader and mentor for someone with all the odds stacked against them!!!! Therefore, "the efforts of today determine the successes of tomorrow. TRIO WORKS!!!!"

District 2

Mollie Drapeau
Student Support Services
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College

The TRIO program gave me the confidence to pursue my college education further than an associate degree. Within the program, I was able to receive tutoring when needed and provided tutoring when asked. The program assisted me with my four-year college application and answered all my questions. They provided trips to campuses for tours. The TRIO program was a part of my support system so that I can get to where I want to be with my education.



Clarissa Jackson
Talent Search
Northeastern State University

Participating in a TRIO program gave me opportunities to learn about the different types of colleges. It taught me how to successfully apply for the schools I wanted and what fit my personality. Upon receiving the Gates Scholarship, TRIO taught me how to interact during an interview. I was able to overcome the stress of interviewing and receiving the scholarship. I am thankful TRIO is in my life and believe it is a big part of my life.

#TRIOworks



District 2



Cameron Carey
Student Support Services
Southeastern Oklahoma State University

I would have to say the immense amount of support the TRIO program offers has helped me through a lot. I have been impacted by this program more than I anticipated. I have been on so many school cultural trips, where I've had the opportunity to learn and be apart of so many great things. Because of the TRIO program I have met so many great people. I am doing very well in school because of the support and communication I have with TRIO. I am most excited that my sister just completed her first semester of college and is also apart of the TRIO program. When I leave, I know she will be in great hands.

Faith Taylor Isenberg
Student Support Services
Southeastern Oklahoma State College



TRIO, or Project Teach, has helped me tremendously in my education here at Southeastern. It was the advisor provided by Project Teach who helped me realize that I needed to change my major from Elementary Education to Early Childhood Education. Project Teach also provides numerous resources that I would not have access to otherwise. They have provided me books to borrow so that I could study for my OSAT, printed off my pattern books that I needed for a class and has helped me both provide and send in the documents needed so I would not have to take my OGET. Project Teach also provides workshops year-round so that students can continuously improve on their academic life. The workshops include helping with FASFA to study tips for the tests one needs to take in order to teach. Project Teach has changed my academic life at Southeastern for the better.

District 2



Guy Moon
Student Support Services
Southeastern Oklahoma State University

TRIO has helped me by providing me with access to scholarships and resources. I was awarded scholarships, and I used this money to buy a laptop. TRIO helped connect me with available resources academically since I am a first-generation college student, and I was also helped with connections to resources for my mental health. SSS gave me ideas and access to community agencies that helped me excel. My SSS counselor told me about the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, and this connection helped me with funds for gas to help with the my commute and additional financial aid to pay for books and tuition. SSS helped me connect these dots! Connecting all of these together made my journey towards graduation more manageable and meaningful. There is no way I would have made it without the support from SSS!

Mekhi Smith
Student Support Services
Southeastern Oklahoma State University

The advantages of being in a TRIO program are numerous. There are always people in the office ready to help with anything. They provide assistance with counseling, tutoring, financial aid, and enrolling for classes. In general, being a part of Student Support Services has helped me a lot during this semester, and with their encouragement and motivation I have been able to already become a better student than I was in high school. This also includes managing my time better and being more responsible than I ever was.



District 2



Sabine Johnson
Student Support Services
Southeastern Oklahoma State University

The most significant advantage is the support you are given. I know project teach checks on me all the time.

Sometimes it's to make sure I'm doing what I'm supposed to do for school, but others, they are just making sure I'm ok. Being in college, where you don't know many people who support you, having this support makes a huge difference. Another advantage is the opportunities you are given. The TRIO program gives students unique opportunities to do and see this that they would otherwise not.

District 3



Jose Rojas
Upward Bound
Northwestern Oklahoma State University

TRIO programs allow me and many other students to pursue education without worrying too much about finances, setbacks, and family problems. They have provided much for me and my family. I am grateful. Education is important to me and Upward Bound has helped me make that a priority. One area specifically is my ACT score. I am not a good test taker. I do not comprehend things easily; however, I do love things that are set, like math. I was not good at taking the ACT fast, but you have to be if you want to do good. With Upward Bound, I took it 8 times and got my score up to 30. I give TRIO all the credit. I do not have to worry about other issues that happen in life. All they want me to do is focus on my education and be the best I can be.

Jor'Dyn Luster
Upward Bound Math Science
Northwestern Oklahoma Sate University

Some of the advantages of the TRIO program was making friends that I never would have met. It's also amazing to have tutors and teachers that can work with me one on one. The Upward Bound staff has really helped to get me prepared for college. It's also nice having mentors to talk to when things aren't going the best. Mentors are a real advantage! Lastly, I really enjoyed taking cultural field trips that provided me with opportunities or experiences that I might not of had before.



District 3



Sean Whisenhunt
Student Support Services
Oklahoma State University

Returning to college at 34 years old as a nontraditional first-generation student was challenging. My confidence in returning to the classroom was met with some challenges. I honestly didn't see myself finishing without the support from other people. Another student told me about TRIO-SSS and showed me the TRIO learning center at Tulsa Community College. TRIO helped me finish an associate's degree, a certificate in aircraft dispatch, and eventually now my bachelor's degree. I was recently accepted into grad school at OSU. TRIO-SSS helped me navigate the financial aid and scholarship battlefield required to pay for college. The relationships I've built in TRIO will be long lasting. The TRIO-SSS mentor program at OSU helped me acclimate to the big university life as a transfer student. TRIO-SSS was the solid rocket boosters in my academic career I needed to gain the trajectory I'm on now.

Cameren Branch
McNair Scholars
Oklahoma State University

I recently had to manufacture a diversity statement for a graduate school application, and it permitted me to ruminate on the motif or idea of representation and inclusion. The TRIO program proffers support, structure, and a litany of resources and opportunities that coalesce to advance, refine, and develop technical, interpersonal, and professional skills that succor in academia and life. However, what renders TRIO unique is its ability to funnel with merit yet concurrently produce responsive and dynamic spaces that are organic. TRIO establishes a presence concerning disadvantaged groups in a fashion that is not token or condescending, and it provides the valuable tool that was historically unavailable, accessibility.



District 3



Jessica Cortez
McNair Scholars
Oklahoma State University

A few of the advantages of participating in a TRIO program are the guidance and workshops that are provided for students to help them be successful in the classroom and one day the work force. I have personally found resources for financial aid through the Student Support Services and research opportunities through the McNair Scholars Program. The McNair Scholars Program has also guided me through the graduate application process and made me feel confident in the graduate programs I have applied to. The advisors and staff also do a great job at working towards ensuring that TRIO participants have the tools necessary to develop into a well-rounded individual.

Montserrat Solorzano-Franco
McNair Scholars
Oklahoma State University

When I first came to Oklahoma State University, I lacked academic goals. I knew I planned to graduate with my degree; however I did not know how to be successful after obtaining the degree. When I was introduced to TRIO SSS and McNair programs, I was provided the necessary tools to be successful. TRIO has helped me navigate educational spaces that were perhaps not made for me, an underrepresented minority. Specifically, the McNair program has prepared me for my professional and personal life beyond academia.



District 3



Breland Steward
Student Support Services
Oklahoma State University

TRIO has helped me excel both personally and academically. I have enjoyed the academic resources of advising, workshops, and special events that helped grow me as a student. Additionally, it motivated me to travel and pursue a degree in higher education. Before TRIO, I never got the opportunity to travel and see the world. TRIO has helped change my perspective of the world and made me realize I want to experience the whole world and travel while studying. TRIO makes being a student joyful for me. The memories and experiences of these programs (TRIO-SSS and McNair Scholars) have given me faith in my future plans.

Tonisha Lamkin
Student Support Services
Oklahoma State University

The advantages of participating in a TRIO program is the constant support and love you receive from the people who run the program. TRIO-SSS is a place where they help you find yourself and push you to achieve the goals you have, but never thought you would be able to reach. Depending on what it is you need to grow and learn, they are simultaneously both your quietest and loudest supporters. You know whenever you are stepping into a situation with uncertainty that you can always look over your shoulder and know they are there with any resources or guidance that you need. TRIO-SSS has given me so much confidence in myself that I can do anything I put my mind to.



District 3



Hailey McBroom
Upward Bound
Redlands Community College

TRIO has helped me overcome multiple barriers both big and small while working on my education goals. TRIO taught me many things that have proved valuable to my education experience, but one in particular is how to communicate effectively with my instructors and administrators. The administration of the chapter

that I am apart of has also shown me how important having a support system is when trying to obtain a higher education. They are there to show support for their students in any situation they can which has been vital in my situation. I know when I hit a major roadblock and need some help I can look to TRIO to provide the guidance and support I need to get through it to continue to be successful in my educational endeavors.

District 4



Andrea Grace Coleman
Upward Bound
Cameron University

TRIO program's provide stability to students of all different backgrounds. They grant them tutoring opportunities, Monthly one on one sessions that improve our personal and academic skills. These events effectively encourage our understanding of college and better prepare us for our futures. My favorite part about my Trio program is that we are taken on various campus visits for no cost at all. I'm able to explore a plethora of educational options in state and out of state for free. Due to my financial situation and the current state of several of my peers I was able to recommend the Cameron University Upward Bound program for all of them. Now we are all on track to attend a university in the fall.

Hayley Kousman
Upward Bound
Cameron University

Participating in a TRIO program has many benefits. One of those benefits that has helped me a lot is that my program financed my college application fees/etc which was a large relief lifted from my shoulders and actually encouraged me to apply to more than just one or two schools. Although I chose to remain at my current school to obtain my bachelors degree, not having to worry about application fees allowed me to look into different universities I may want to attend in the future, and I even got accepted into some. This benefit allowed me to feel encouraged and free of stress when it came to the application process. Another advantage is being able to socialize in a diverse environment consisting of many different people and personalities, some of which a person would typically avoid.



District 4



JayShaun Abraham
Upward Bound
Cameron University

Participating in a TRIO Program has incredible educational, social, and monetary benefits. I have been blessed with once and a lifetime opportunities that most programs don't provide.

Leonardo Hermosillo
Upward Bound
Cameron University

One of the advantages I discovered of being in the TRIO program was the guidance I was offered. Before joining, I did not have anyone to teach me about a higher education. I did not have any hope that I would go to college, but TRIO opened the door for me to reach for the stars.



District 4



Matthew Isaac Hogg
Upward Bound
Cameron University

The main advantage in my opinion, is the specialized assistance in preparing for college and the academic resources available to help. Getting a jump start in doing college applications and applying for scholarships and other financial assistance is incredibly useful, especially when the average high school student wouldn't know where to start or where to find these resources.

Mckalay Penelope Estep
Upward Bound
Cameron University

It helps me prepare for college by exploring many different universities and learning ways to save money for it. Being in the program, I get to be on the right track for college with the information they share with us. I also gain community service and leadership skills. I am able to interact with other members and create friendships throughout the program. The directors are also comforting and feel easy to talk to with any questions I have.



District 4



Chloe Waxler
Student Support Services
Cameron University

Student Support Services has helped me by helping me out the first time I came to Cameron University. They were completely understanding and welcomed me with open arms. The program's staff also encouraged me to open up and get involved with the program's leadership team. I am very happy I got involved with SSS.

Tiffany Nolen
Student Support Services
Cameron University

I joined TRIO twenty years ago as a college freshman. I was having a rough time in my life and SSS helped me overcome many of those obstacles. At the beginning of my college career, math was my biggest obstacle. My SSS advisor along with the SSS Math Lab tutors helped me get through math and not give up. If it wasn't for Student Support Services, I would not be where I am today.



District 4



Eli Taylor
Student Support Services
East Central University

Participating in a TRIO program has given me the tools to navigate my higher education experience more effectively. Having an office that can answer questions regarding ECU and GI Bill benefits has had a direct impact on success over the years. I am confident that with the qualified staff in the VSSS office, veterans will continue to receive the highest of quality support during their time at ECU.

Nicholas Lane
Student Support Services
East Central University

Having access to tools and programs that help me study and learn the material makes a huge difference. I have a 2-year-old daughter at home, and being able to study in a quiet lounge or receive tutoring away from home makes a significant difference to me.



District 4



Javen Factor
Upward Bound
East Central University

Upward bound provides an in-person, real-life experience for college preparation. I have participated in the summer program, which was very helpful to prepare me for college. I have learned about financial responsibility and have met friends from all across the area. The stipends were helpful as an incentive for meetings on Saturday mornings

Jayde Landreth
Upward Bound
East Central University

There are many advantages to participating in a TRIO program. TRIO helps you adjust to college before you enter college. They also mentor you throughout high school. If you participate in a TRIO program you get to meet new people, gain knowledge, and help you overcome any barriers that you might have. Participating in the TRIO program has given me access to all the support that I have needed.



District 4



Madilynn Duszynski
Upward Bound
East Central University

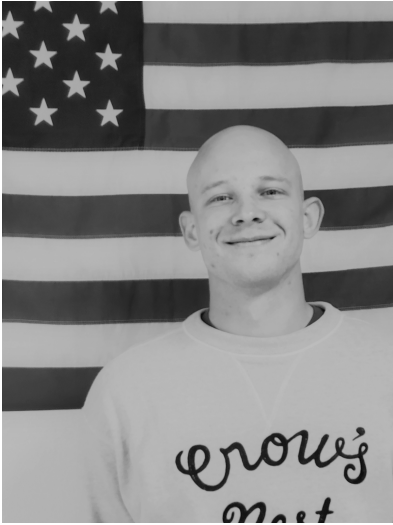
An advantage of a TRIO program is that I get to experience college without actually being in college yet. I also have made friends through the program I would have never met otherwise. Another advantage of being in a TRIO program is learning who to go to when I have questions about college and having fun along the way. TRIO has helped me by allowing me to become more outgoing. I used to refrain from asking questions in class and I would get lost during an assignment, but being in TRIO helped me make friends and gave me the confidence to ask for help during class.

Mia Riley
Upward Bound Math Science
East Central University

Participating in a TRIO program has been a huge difference maker in my life. It's given me opportunities that I otherwise would not have. Being a first-generation student has impacted me and TRIO has helped majorly, allowing me to excel academically and personally, from better grades in school to knowledge about college paths. TRIO has inspired me to take on more challenging academic classes because I know that I have the resources, from TRIO, to follow through. I've made a lifetime of memories and lasting friends that encourage and uplift me. TRIO is an amazing program that is customized to its students, giving them an unlimited number of opportunities to utilize. It's given me hope for a better future for myself and my friends. I am beyond grateful to have the TRIO program and my UBMS people by my side.



District 4



Clifton Eggleston
Veterans Upward Bound
East Central Oklahoma

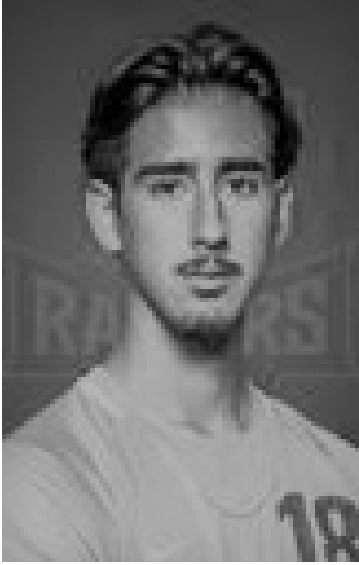
When walking on to East Central University's campus, I was almost 10 years removed from any academic setting. Completely unaware of what I needed to do, I asked someone at reception for help, and was directed to Veterans Upward Bound. John and Mary were instrumental in getting me oriented on campus and through the enrollment/registration process. They went above and beyond what I expected, introducing me to other programs and staff on campus to aid me further. Their genuine care and concern for the veterans that they help is evidenced by the fact that they continue to stay in touch with me, even after my journey has carried me outside of the scope of VUB.

Crystal Sommers
Student Support Services
Rose State College

TRIO supplies first generation students with the resources that are needed to succeed in college but with a more family feel. It is limited so there is more time available to each student. They can get the one on one time that might be needed for those who need it. TRIO offers office hours to help set up schedules and make sure the student has everything they need to start their classes. They offer awards to help with tuition and/or supplies. They offer tutoring for those who need a little help. They also offer fun activities to keep students socially engaged in the whole college experience. Outside of TRIO the resources are stretched across a larger area which does not give everyone a lot of time. TRIO is like a family. The family only wants what is best for us and to succeed. This is why I am where I am today.



District 4



Julio Cesar Cordero
Student Support Services
Rose State College

TRIO has been a great help to me in understanding the nuances of college life. With their assistance, I have been successful in communicating with my professors. TRIO offers a variety of workshops, such as the FAFSA application workshop, which has made the process much simpler with the help of a professional. They have also been a great help in guiding me with any academic issues, such as homework and studying. Furthermore, they have helped me transition from a two-year school to a four-year school by offering trips to various universities so that I can find the right campus for me.

Madison Welch
Student Support Services
Rose State College

There are many advantages of participating in a TRIO program. One of the biggest is the support they can provide. My TRIO program at Rose State College has given me the tools and support I need to push my education to the next level. They have given me a better opportunity to continue my education once I graduate from RSC. I also have received a lot of support from my TRIO Mentor/Advisor, Jazmyne Boyles-Vance. She was always there for me I am grateful that this wonderful organization was here to support me through my college journey.



District 4



Coy Todd, Jr.
Talent Search
Rose State College

The advantage of participating in a TRIO program is that students are better prepared to succeed in school and college. Participants have the opportunity to prepare for the ACT, take college tours, and receive tutoring. The mentoring and financial guidance provided are very helpful. I feel that by participating in a TRIO program, students have great support for educational retention.

Gideon T. Okutu
Talent Search
Rose State College

Being part of the Rose State College TRIO program was a thrilling experience, always looked forward to summer excursions. The Program has an excellent and welcoming staff that works hard to plan events and activities.

The TRIO program has provided me with essential educational opportunities such as ACT boot camps and hosted camps for skills needed in the workforce. They also provided us with a variety of unique experiences such as

visiting museums and entertainment hubs, my favorites being our trip to the Main event and the First Americans Museum.

The program encourages students to further their education after high school and do so by providing us with tours of college campuses recently being a visit to the University of Oklahoma.

Touring university campuses had a huge influence on my college choices.

Another important aspect of the program is its focus on providing support for students during their high school career by providing essential school supplies and crucial information like scholarships and applying for financial aid.

The TRIO has made a significant impact on me as a student and a person, it has given me an edge in understanding the importance of continuing my education and has shown me and my family support throughout my journey from a freshman out of middle school to a soon-to-graduate senior.



District 4



John Garrett Hampton
Talent Search
Rose State College

I have been able to see more of Oklahoma through the field trips and explore colleges I hadn't heard of because of the TRIO program and it has helped me in my decision making about college. I have met students from surrounding schools in my district through the TRIO program and it has also helped my family with back to school supplies and providing my parents with someone to ask for any questions or help they needed with the Oklahoma Promise and the Ticket to Rose program along with information about colleges across the state.

Noelia Rodriguez
McNair Scholars
University of Oklahoma



As a first-generation student and proud daughter of immigrant parents, obtaining a bachelor's degree is statistically not very common. McNair has allowed me to create a different narrative and dream a bit larger about what I would like to do post-undergrad. It can be terrifying to put yourself out there and do something as intimidating as research— all of the terms, data collection, and (the worst) writing an annotated bibliography. But it is so worth it! The best thing about TRIO programs is how your mentors understand that this is probably the first project you have ever worked on and are genuinely excited to walk you through the process. This is the time to try and ask questions! Who knows, you might discover something amazing, learn more about yourself, or decide that research is not for you. TRIO has provided me with invaluable guidance, constant support throughout my current project, and encourages me to continue making professional connections wherever I go.

District 4



Saramarie Azzun
McNair Scholars
University of Oklahoma

As a TRIO student, I have been able to participate in opportunities that have been paramount to my education. As a McNair scholar, I learned about applying to graduate school, which I would not have received without the program. The TRIO program has provided me with not only tangible resources but intangible resources, such as mentorship, guidance, and financial assistance through the graduate school process. I could not have applied to graduate school without the assistance of the TRIO program, which has been one of the few constants of my undergraduate experience.

Brisa Peralta
Upward Bound
University of Oklahoma

A few advantages of this program that I have been given is being able to see how much help there is if you just work for it and take advantage of the opportunities in front of you. It has also helped me put myself out there, meet new people, see different college options and also get a pre-college experience before I am even a high school graduate. It's been very helpful and I'm so glad I joined.



District 5



Alexis Zimmerman
Student Support Services
Oklahoma City Community College

I did not know the TRIO program was available to me until my last semester at OCCC. I am a first-generation student, which I was not aware of. Since my parents did some college, I assumed that I did not fit into this category. However, neither obtained any degree(s), I was corrected in my thinking and applied for OCCC's TRIO program. There are many advantages to participating in TRIO, one of the biggest things the TRIO team has helped me with this semester is my transferring to UCO next January. They were able to waive my application fee, which saved me a good chunk of money. They have also been excellent in providing resources and connections to make my transition smoother and less anxiety filled. TRIO provides a support team, a family and peers. I know that if I don't have anyone, that I at least have TRIO I can count on. I can't thank them enough what they've done for me in just the past 16 weeks. They've provided support and experience and for that I am forever grateful.

Lashawn Webb
Student Support Services
Oklahoma City Community College

A few advantages of participating in a TRIO program are having a team of academic advisors that are a wealth of knowledge regarding all things college-related. You can attend workshops that enlighten you about anything from personal skills like studying to filling out the FAFSA correctly every year. You can go on college campus visits both in and out of state, and lastly, help your friends join if they're first-generation, low-income, or a student with a disability, so they too can share in on the great benefits of being a TRIO participant.



District 5



Alex Uribe
Upward Bound
Oklahoma City Community College

TRIO has helped me strive in many areas of my personal life but most importantly my academic life. While being part of TRIO they provided a tutoring program where I could go get help if I was ever struggling to understand any material and at any time, they also provided workshops which were very informative and provided advice in academic, personal, and financial advice. They would provide feedback for my scholarship essays, help with applications to other universities, contacting me with people across the community and much more. Throughout my whole experience, TRIO was there to help, support, and encourage me through my academic goals helping me strive to become the best.

Daniela Vasquez-Ramirez
Upward Bound
Oklahoma City Community College

One of the main advantages of being in the TRIO program is that you will always have someone to count on and help you with everything you need. If you are unsure of where to start, they will assist you and listen to your concerns, so there is no need to struggle and be anxious. They would assist you in finding the classes and scholarships you need. They help you apply for FAFSA. In addition to finding resources for you, they also provide you with tutoring during the school year. But it is not only academic, but they also do a lot of fun activities. They made college fun. My favorite thing about them is that they would remind me to see them so they could help me register for classes next semester. Being a forgetful person, I am grateful they do this for me. I would have given up a long time ago if it were not for TRIO. I thank God for them and for everything they do to help college students who do not know where to start and what to do and me. I am glad I encounter them. This program is amazing, and I hope they continue to help kids like me.



District 5



Alfredo Montoya
Student Support Services
Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City

TRIO has been a part of my life since I was a freshman in high school. Upward Bound educated me with everything there was to know about college. They stood by me as I grew closer to transitioning from high school to university. I truly believe that with out being involved in TRIO I wouldn't have achieved the success I have achieved in high school and university. I came close to skipping the opportunity to attend university but TRIO kept me on the path that I am on right now. Project SOAR-SSS helped me find a home in a setting I was unfamiliar with. I have managed to maintain a B average while in university and it is thanks to the environment I am always in at SOAR. With the help of Upward Bound and Project SOAR I was able to grow into a better leader and even go back to my roots and share that experience with the next generation

Faith Romo
Student Support Services
Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City



The advantages of participating a TRIO program are not only that they are an extreme help with their tutors and counseling but this programs has helped me build lifelong relationships with many students and staff. These people have impacted my life by showing me how college really worked after not knowing anything as a first generation student. Other advantages are that they have culture trips, application fee waivers, and transfer trips. All that helped me choose what I wanted to do and where I wanted to go. I am forever grateful for Project SOAR.

District 5



Pahola Deleon
Student Support Services
Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City

TRIO has helped me along my educational journey every step of the way. From registering for classes to apply for Graduation. TRIO has given me skills that have helped me advance far past what I thought I was capable of. The people in the program have always gone above and beyond, such as editing my resume for a new job and writing letters for scholarships. With TRIO I have been able to compete much of my education for without, I would have felt lonely and afraid. I am proud to be in such organization.

Kiara Villanueva
Upward Bound
Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City

I've been a part of Upward Bound for four years now, and every day I try my best to not take it for granted. Being in this program has brought many new opportunities, friendships, memories, and has overall changed my way of living. At first, I remember feeling so lost, shy and scared. I was stuck in my own bubble, not wanting it to burst. My 14-year-old self could not handle all these new experiences and emotions. It was all uncomfortable, but as the years passed by that bubble of mine had deflated little by little, so for that, I can say thank you. Thank you to the program for helping me overcome my fears and flaws. Upward Bound has influenced and educated me into the strong woman that I am today.



District 5



Lindsay Flores
Upward Bound

Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City

When I first joined Upward Bound, all of my expectations were exceeded. During the summer programs, I did not have to worry about being the teacher because I could play the student role my school did not allow me to fulfill. Even better, I was taught about a world where I did not have to suffer the same outcomes as my parents. This world has become my goal for four years: a college education.

Because of TRIO programs like Upward Bound, I have learned how to not accept the bare minimum where a student does not have to worry about the enrichment of their education.

Shayna Flaming
Upward Bound

Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City

Before Upward Bound, I never thought about the future. I had my feet in the mud, and I found myself stuck. One day, my middle school teacher was talking about college. Nobody at school contemplated going to college. She began talking about Upward Bound. A college-prep program which allows kids to achieve their dreams. My first summer with Upward Bound was revolutionary. Inspirational students surrounded me, all achieving their dream. An unfamiliar feeling filled my body: motivation. I could make a happy future for myself. They provided a goal to build into reality. Upward Bound undoubtedly saved my life. With my feet out of the mud, I am running to a brighter future. Upward Bound has shown me. As Coach Mac said in the summer, I found a purpose.



District 5



Kiara Santana
Talent Search

Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City

I honestly believe that joining Talent Search as a freshman was the best thing, I could have done for myself now as a senior. The amount of preparation to dedication of one's future that you get out of participating in a TRIO program is overwhelmingly significant for success. As a member I have been privileged enough to do things that I probably would not have been able to do as a first generation/low-income student. I have visited the capitol, toured and learned about multiple colleges with location variety, taken act prep courses, have had college application assistance, senior year counseling and advising, and have even gotten to participate in bettering my community through volunteer experiences! I am firmly convinced that Trio works, and that anyone seeking to better themselves or gain a sense of readiness for life should consider joining.

Michelle Frias
Talent Search

Oklahoma State - Oklahoma City

Being in a Talent Search program is setting you for success. The information I learned was incredibly useful and it was information that you don't always hear about. What helped me the most to excel was always being open to volunteer for community service, which helped build a network and ACT Prep. Testing became a big part of the last two years in high school and having opportunities like ACT Prep helped me a ton. I used all the information I learned and implemented those in my goals and even informed my peers for them to become successful as well. The Talent Search program offers many great opportunities that prepares students for the real world.



District 5



Naudia Ramsey
Talent Search

Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City

Being a member of Talent Search has given me a huge support system when navigating both high school and future college plans. From prep workshops to community activities, I have always felt as though I was ready to take on the next big step of my life that is becoming a college student. The staff members are always so supportive and kind, which has given me a source of motivation and encouragement throughout my high school years.

Aalijah Kirby
Talent Search

University of Central Oklahoma

There are so many advantages of participating in TRIO, but some of my favorite things are the exposure to college campuses, access to academic counselors that teach us new things, and the opportunity to meet community leaders who are always willing to help us.

I've been an active participant in the UCO TRIO Talent Search Central Connect Program since sixth grade and have learned many lessons over the years. I will always be grateful to have a group of people in my life that will always be there for me no matter what.



District 5

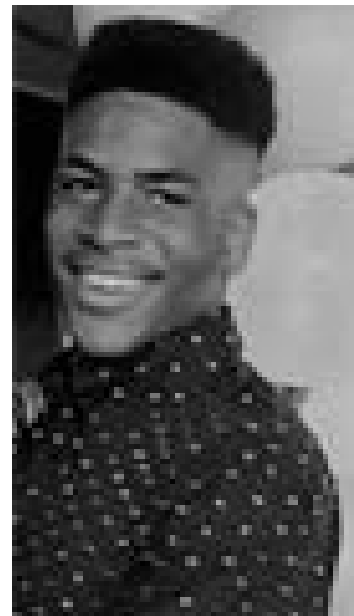


**Hope Gronkate
Talent Search
University of Central Oklahoma**

When I first joined the UCO TRIO program in sixth grade, I was very shy and nervous. As I became more familiar with the advisors, my confidence improved and I began to meet a lot of new people! This new found confidence not only helped me build relationships with my peers, it also helped me become a better student in the classroom and model the positive behavior I saw my TRIO advisors consistently demonstrate. I really look up to them and I am very blessed to have met them. My favorite TRIO memory was being given the opportunity to attend the UCO Black Girl Magic conference. At this conference, I was surrounded by numerous positive role models that looked like me and helped me embrace who I was on the inside and out. I will carry the confidence I've gained with me for life!

**Xadarious Fields
Talent Search
University of Oklahoma**

By participating in TRIO, I have learned about the various school and career paths available for students after high school graduation. Some people feel like college isn't for them (and that's okay) but TRIO helped me realize there are also great opportunities available in career tech/trade schools. Through highlighting these other educational opportunities, I have realized the possibilities for myself post graduation are endless! Talent Search also taught me good habits that have helped me throughout high school such as time management and the importance of having a good work ethic. As a participant in this program, I have learned many things and met so many amazing people. I am grateful to have built connections that I'll be able to reach back to throughout my life. Without TRIO, I don't know where I'd be.



District 5



Leslie Reyes
Upward Bound Math Science
University of Central Oklahoma

The advantages of participating in the University of Central Oklahoma Upward Bound Math Science TRIO Program would include helping me understand college. The program provided opportunities for me to visit different places and connect with many people on college tours. The program's academic exposure assisted me in narrowing down my major and the university I plan to attend in the Fall of 2023. Then being an active participant in the program helped me come out of my shell and speak confidently with anyone I may cross paths with. Interestingly enough, from the first day I was introduced to the program, I thought, "This will be a waste of my time and summer." However, I found out quickly that I was wrong. Ms. Scott, Ms. Riley, and Ms. Hampton helped me get through high school. I am so grateful to have their help with the next step in my secondary education.



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