



Solomila Bishko

TRIO SSS

In my country I was not allowed to pursue an education so at the urging of my family I immigrated to the United States. I came to the U.S. alone, knew no one, and had no support whatsoever. But I had a dream. When I began my education at Bellevue College I had very limited English skills and the most challenging part was overcoming this barrier. I struggled with understanding the simplest of concepts. However, I always believe that anything is possible with continuous hard work. Thus, I dedicated many hours to improving my English.

My educational dream came true after I joined TRIO. The TRIO staff helped me to overcome my fears and become a much better student. With their support I was able to conquer my difficulties. They became not just my advisers and teachers; they became my “friends.” Today, I am a straight A student; I am comfortable speaking in English, and I am moving forward in my career. I am thankful to the TRIO professionals for their tremendous support and contribution to my success. They will always be in my heart as my teachers of life, friends, and family. In TRIO, I found a full understanding, love, hope, and success!



Student Success Services

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 to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary 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.

All SSS projects must provide: academic tutoring, which may include instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics, science, and other subjects; advice and assistance in postsecondary course selection, assist student with information on both the full range of student financial aid programs, benefits and resources for locating public and private scholarships; and assistance in completing financial aid applications. Education or counseling services designed to improve the financial and economic literacy and assist students in applying for admission to graduate and professional programs; and assist students enrolled in two-year institutions and applying for admission to, and obtaining financial assistance for enrollment in four-year programs. The SSS projects may also provide individualized counseling for personal, career, and academic information, activities, and instruction designed to acquaint students with career options; exposure to cultural events and academic programs not usually available; mentoring programs, securing temporary housing during breaks for students who are homeless youths and students who are in foster care or are aging out of the foster care system.

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