TRiO

Washington State 2011
TRiO FACTBOOK

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What is TRiO?

Our nation has asserted a commitment to providing educational opportunity for all Americans regardless of race, ethnic background or economic circumstance. In support of this commitment, through the Higher Education Act of 1965, Congress established a series of programs called TRiO to help low-income Americans enter college, graduate and move on to participate more fully in America's economic and social life. As mandated by Congress, two-thirds of the students served must come from low-income backgrounds where neither parent graduated from college. The Higher Education Act of 2008 broadened the definition of who is eligible for TRiO services to include: homeless youth, those in foster care, English as a Second Language learners, students with disabilities, and other disconnected students. More than 2,800 TRiO Programs currently serve nearly one million Americans.

The current administration has committed to have the highest proportion of students graduating from college in the world by 2020. Part of that effort includes offering additional financial aid through programs like the Pell Grant. While student financial aid programs help students overcome financial barriers to higher education, TRiO programs provide the mentoring/advising support needed to help students overcome academic, class, social and cultural barriers to higher education. TRiO services ensure that educational opportunity and the American Dream remain available for all students in an increasingly competitive global economy and world.

Programs and Who They Serve

Talent Search
Grades 6-12 and Adults Up to Age 27
Upward Bound
Grades 9-12
Upward Bound Math/Science
Grades 9-12
Upward Bound Veterans
Grades 9-12
Student Support Services
Undergraduate Students
Ronald E. McNair
Provides Graduate School Preparation for Undergraduates
Educational Opportunity Centers
Adults
TRiO Training Grants
TRiO Professionals

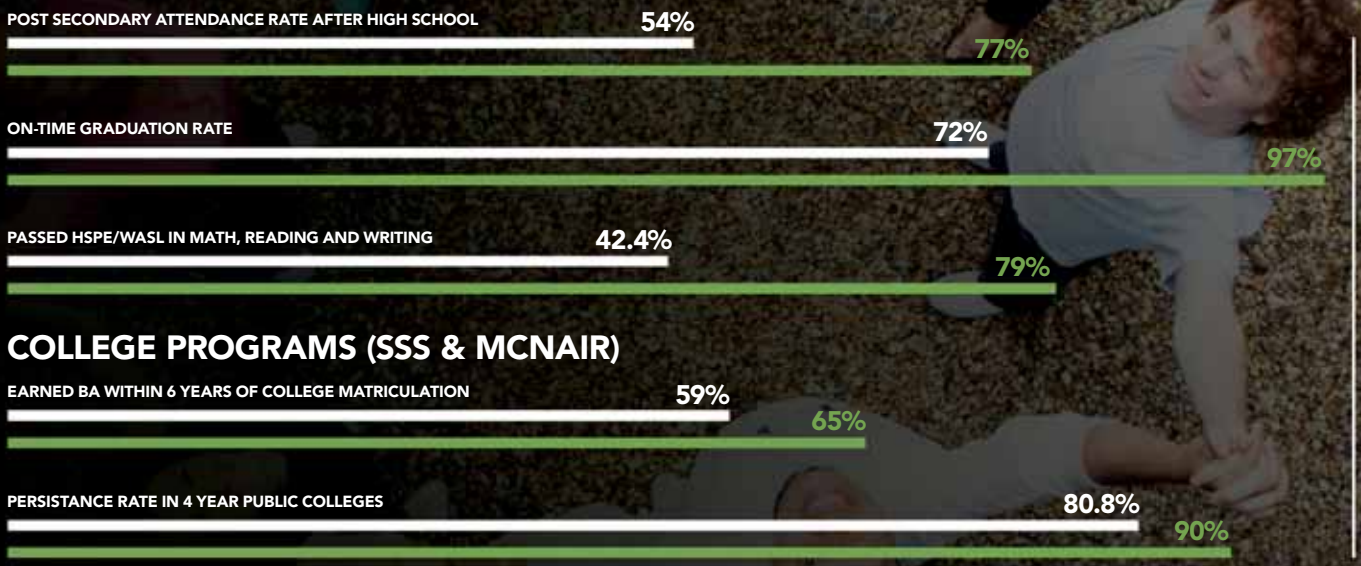
Purpose

The primary purpose of the TRiO programs is to prepare disadvantaged persons for successful entry into, retention in, and completion of postsecondary education. In general, these programs identify low-income, first-generation college students and students with disabilities and provide them with assistance, support and encouragement necessary to complete a postsecondary education.

TRiO in Washington State

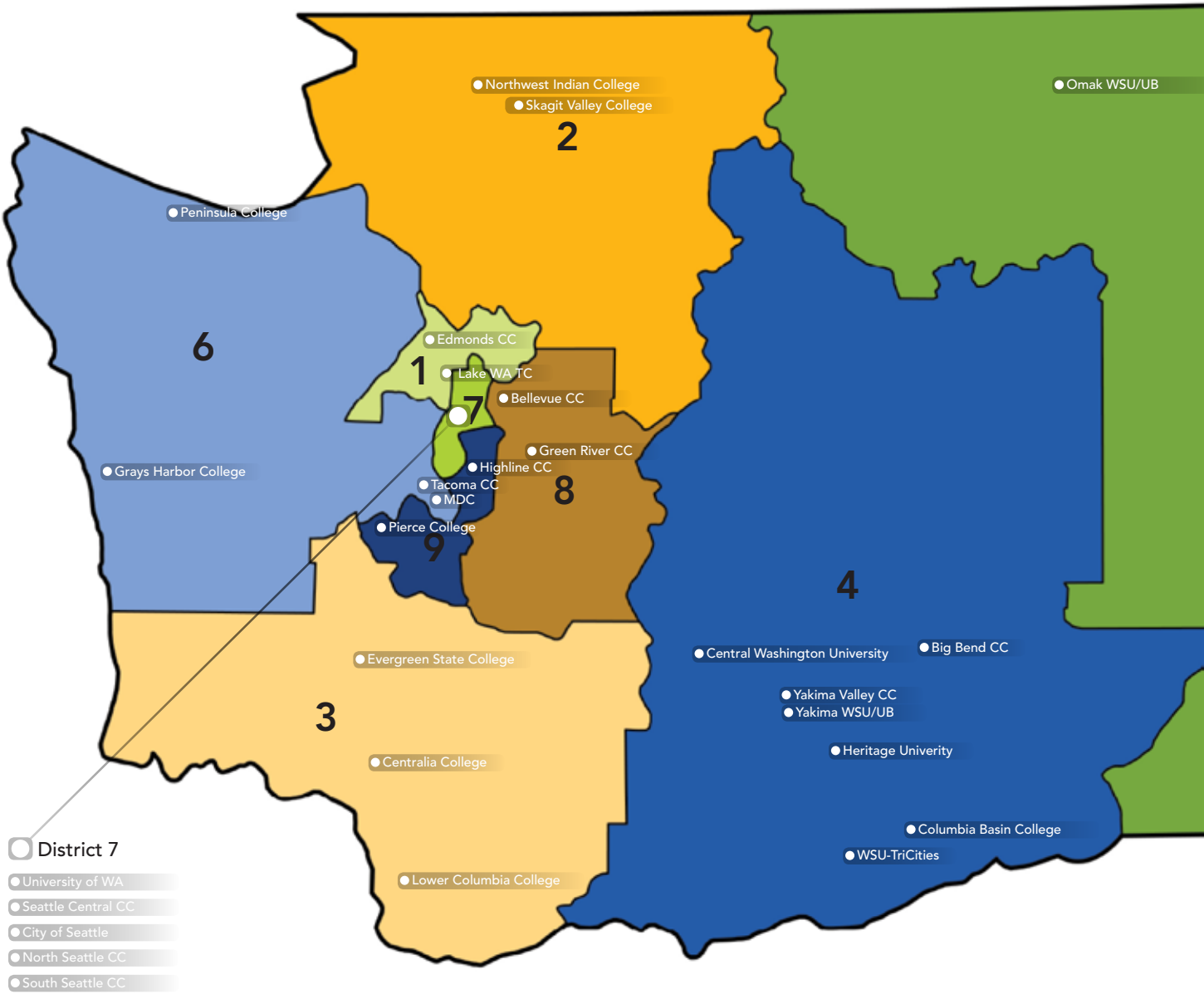
Currently, there are 59 TRiO Programs funded in Washington State, bringing in over $17 million in federal funding, serving 15,000+ students per year.

TRiO HAS A SOLID RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT IN WORKING WITH LOW-INCOME, FIRST GENERATION, AND DISABLED STUDENTS. In Washington...



SOURCES: WSU SOCIAL & ECONOMIC SCIENCES RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, WASHINGTON STATE GRADUATE FOLLOW-UP STUDY, HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2005 OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION WEBSITE: REPORTCARD.OSPI.K12.WA.US/SUMMARY.ASPX?YEAR=2008-09

TRiO Programs by Congressional Districts



District 1
3 TRiO Programs
Funding: $689,820
485 participants served

District 2
2 TRiO Programs
Funding: $602,498
489 participants served

District 3
6 TRiO Programs
Funding: $2,019,078
1,464 participants served

District 4
11 TRiO Programs
Funding: $3,365,811
3,349 participants served

District 5
11 TRiO Programs
Funding: $2,701,922
1,562 participants served

District 6
9 TRiO Programs
Funding: $2,703,969
4,548 participants served

District 7
13 TRiO Programs
Funding: $4,532,047
3,090 participants served

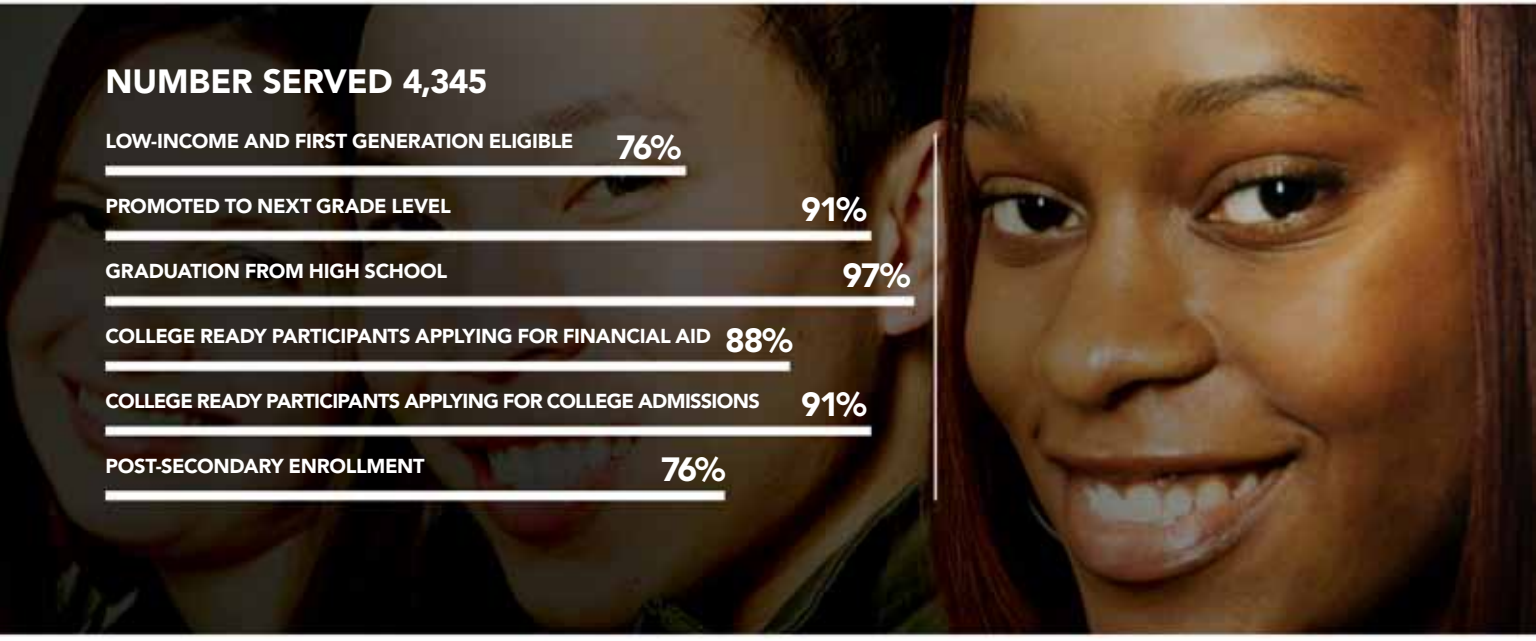
District 8
2 TRiO Programs
Funding: $582,268
392 participants served

District 9
2 TRiO Programs
Funding: $474,922
302 participants served

59 Programs
$17,672,335 In Funding
15,681 Participants Served

Talent Search

Purpose: TS is primarily an early intervention TRiO program serving mostly individuals aged 11-18 to encourage students to complete high school and enroll in postsecondary education. However, TS programs may also serve high school dropouts to age 27 by encouraging and preparing individuals to re-enter the educational system and complete their education.



Services

- Academic, financial, career counseling
- Career exploration and aptitude assessment
- Tutorial services and referral
- Information on postsecondary education
- Exposure to college campuses
- Information on student financial assistance
- Assistance completing college admissions/ financial aid applications
- Assistance in preparing for college entrance exams
- Mentoring programs
- Special activities for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders
- Workshops for the families of participants
- Service learning & leadership activities

Aron Castro Walla Walla Community College

SUCCESS STORY

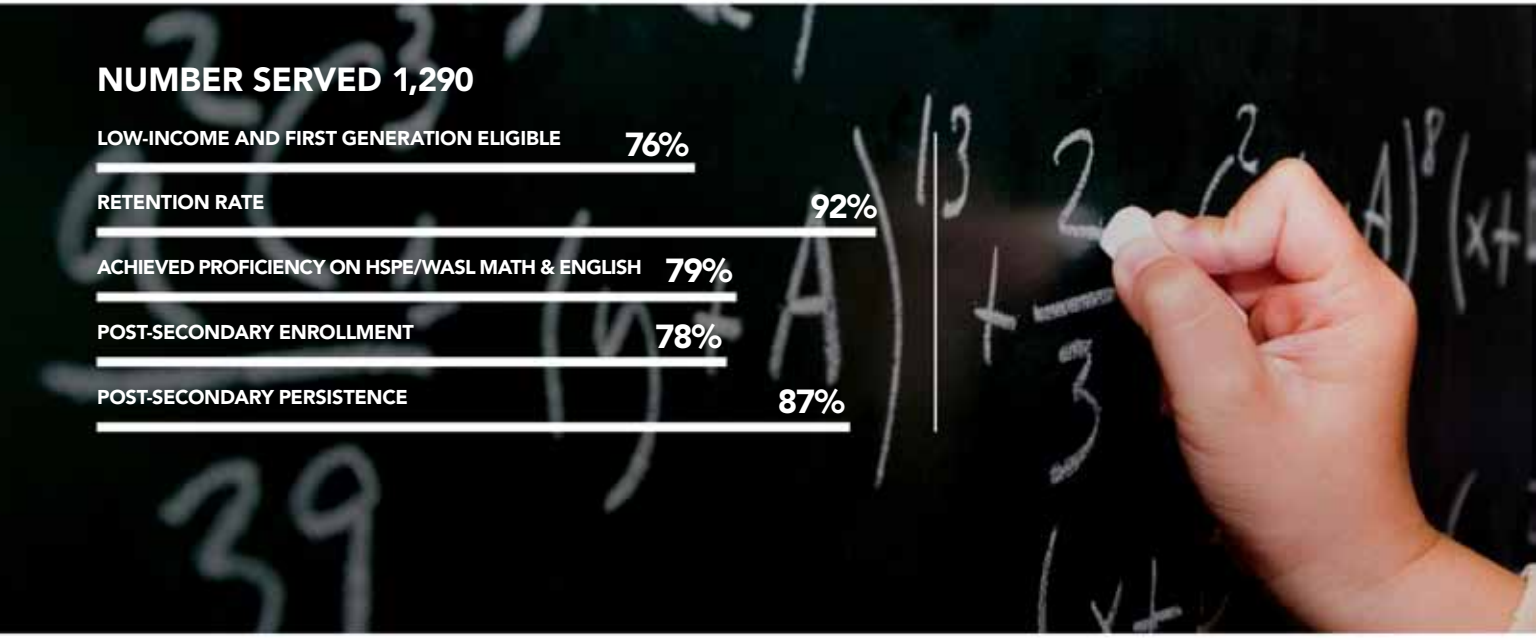
I was a student that was on the brink of failing school. I had attitude problems and didn't know how to handle my emotions. Home was not exactly what people would think, facing the deportation of my father my sophomore year. I went from being an A-B student to a D-F student. My grades suffered due to the hatred that was built inside of me for the loss of my family.

At the beginning of my junior year my family decided to move back to Mexico and left me with my godmother and her husband. This is when I met Max, the new TRiO-TS advisor. I was unsure how to create a relationship with him but I enjoyed speaking with him his first few days on campus. He did not know much about my life at first but he saw potential in me that I had let slip away and had no longer believed in. For the next two years he pushed me to do my best, always checking on my grades and making sure I was having a good day. My attitude changed, my grades rose, and my confidence reappeared as Max helped me apply to all of the colleges I was interested in and I received several scholarships. With the help of new guidance and the support at school from TS I was able to overcome my obstacles and tackle them with a clear mind. Through the humor he offered all of his students, I truly believe Max is one of the people I owe the most to, in terms of not only graduating from high school, but attending college as well.

I am currently pursuing a degree at Lake Region State College and believe that the support the TRiO-TS program gave is a big part of that.

Upward Bound

Purpose: Upward Bound provides intensive academic support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. Students must have completed the eighth grade and be between the ages of 13 and 19, enrolled in high school, planning to go to college and need the services in order to fulfill their goals. The overall goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education. Upward Bound programs also provide a six-week summer experience on a college campus to acclimate and prepare students for college entrance.



Services

- Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, and other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school
- Instruction in math, laboratory science, composition, literature, and foreign language
- Academic, financial, or personal counseling
- Exposure to academic programs and cultural events
- Tutorial services
- Mentoring programs
- Information on postsecondary education opportunities
- Assistance in completing college entrance and financial aid applications
- Assistance in preparing for college entrance exams
- Work study positions to expose participants to careers requiring a postsecondary degree
- Service learning and leadership activities
- Targeted instruction to improve performance on State standardized achievement tests

Fabian Leyva Big Bend Community College

SUCCESS STORY

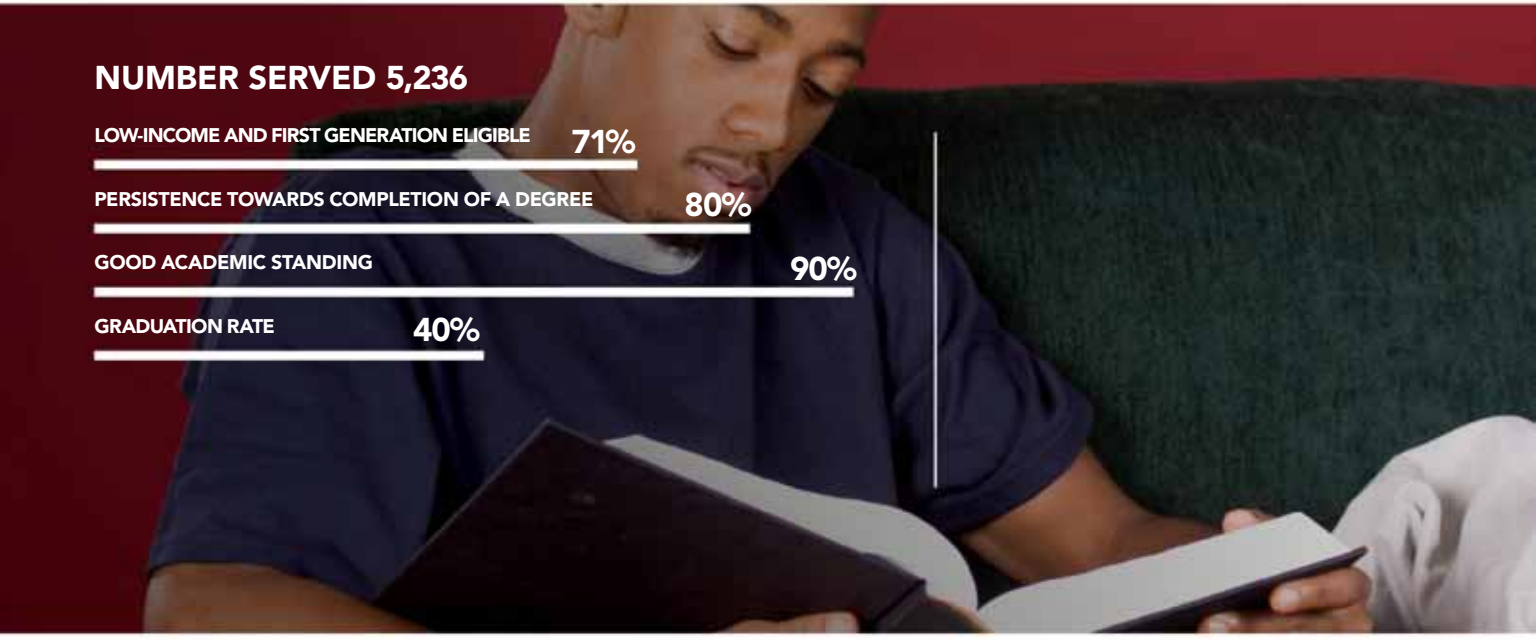
For most of my life I grew up in a single parent household. In 3rd grade my father was sent to prison for drug related offenses and then deported to Mexico. My mother, brother and I tried to make a life with my father moving to various places in Mexico, but my 9th grade year we stopped communicating with him and finally settled in Moses Lake. My lifelong goal since a very young age was to make more than $10 an hour; and the idea of attending college was never even a possibility. But with TRiO Upward Bound's constant help and support I not only graduated from high school but also from Big Bend Community College with an AAS degree through the Running-Start program earning highest academic honors with a 3.9 GPA. I became a recipient of the Paul Lauzier Scholarship, Dell Scholarship, and Gates Millennium Scholarship. In addition I was an All State Academic Team finalist and a participant in the UW MSEP ALVA summer program.

I currently attend the University of Washington and will graduate in 2012 with an undergraduate degree in Mathematics. I plan to pursue a double degree in Electrical Engineering.

Just three years ago I could've never imagined such accomplishments but with the help of Upward Bound all this was made possible. They believed in my potential and guided me step-by-step in reaching my goals. I will be forever grateful to this program for its constant support and will tell anyone with confidence that TRiO makes a difference.

Student Support Services

Purpose: Student Support Services' programs increase the college retention and graduation rates of participants. The program provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves 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.



Services

- Instruction in reading, writing, math, and/or study skills
- Tutorial services
- Academic, financial, and personal counseling
- Assistance in securing admission and financial aid for enrollment in graduate and professional programs
- Information about career options
- Mentoring
- Direct financial assistance (grant aid) to current SSS participants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants
- Assistance in securing admission and financial aid for enrollment in four year institutions (those at 2 year SSS colleges)

Shantel Bize Green River Community College

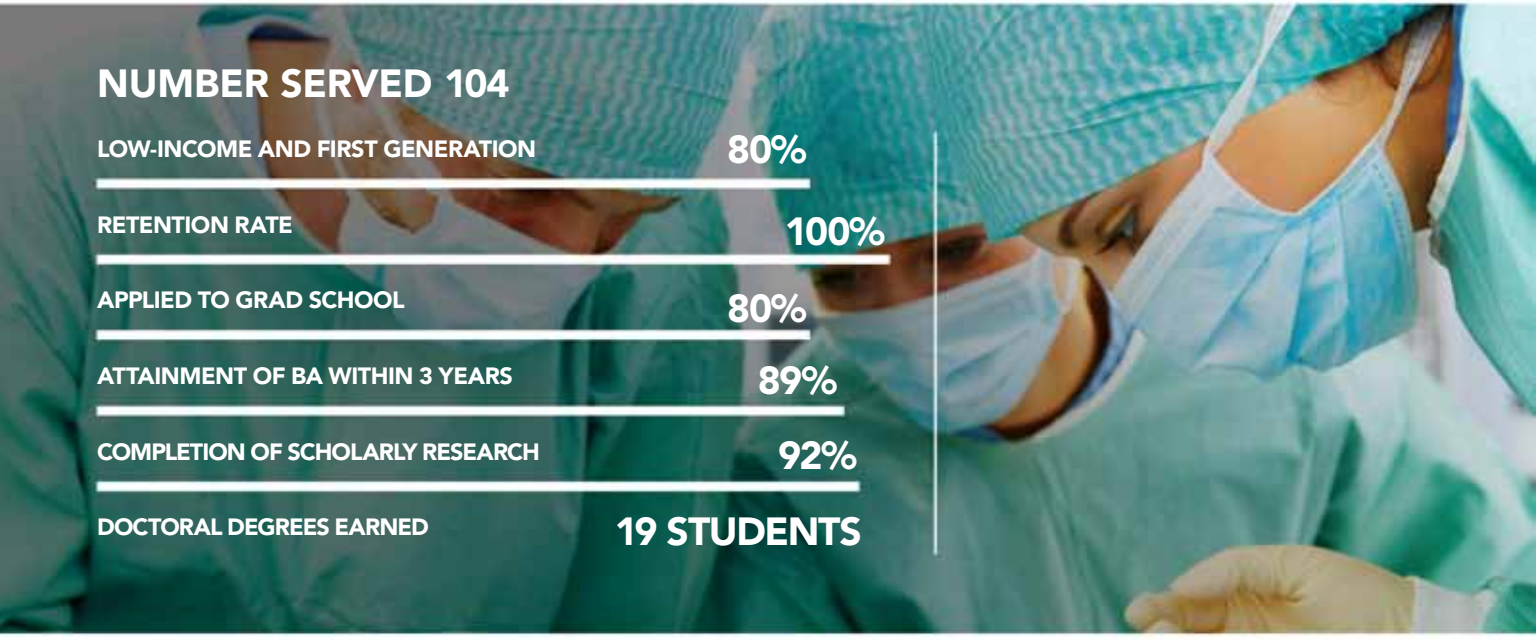
SUCCESS STORY

When I first enrolled at Green River, I didn't know what AA, BA, MA, or even "prerequisite" meant. I just wanted to take some classes for a life change. After taking several remedial courses, I heard about TRiO and enrolled in the program. The next quarter, my brother passed away; I dropped everything and flew home for the funeral. When I returned three weeks later, my teachers suggested I withdraw because they didn't think I could get caught up. I just wanted back into my routine rather than sit around for eight weeks. The entire staff at TRiO was supportive of my decision and served as my rock. I finished the quarter in good standing.

My TRiO advisor was the first person to ever suggest I continue on to a university. I never thought of that as an option until her encouragement. Everyone at TRiO helped me decide on my school (UW-Tacoma), choose my degree (Social Welfare), they even cheered me on in writing admission essays. By the end of my time at GRCC, TRiO had gone from my advising center to my second family. I still rely on their staff for advice today, and thanks to their continued support and belief in me, I earned my BA in Social Welfare in 2010 and am on track to receive my Masters in 2013. Without TRiO's continued belief, I would have given up. They changed my life and I will be forever grateful.

Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Program

Purpose: The Ronald E. McNair program prepares students 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.



Services

- Academic counseling
- Financial aid assistance
- Mentoring
- Research opportunities, seminars, and summer internships
- Exposure to cultural events
- Tutoring
- Guidance for students seeking admission and financial aid for graduate programs

Christina Torres Garcia, Ph.D. Eastern Washington University

SUCCESS STORY

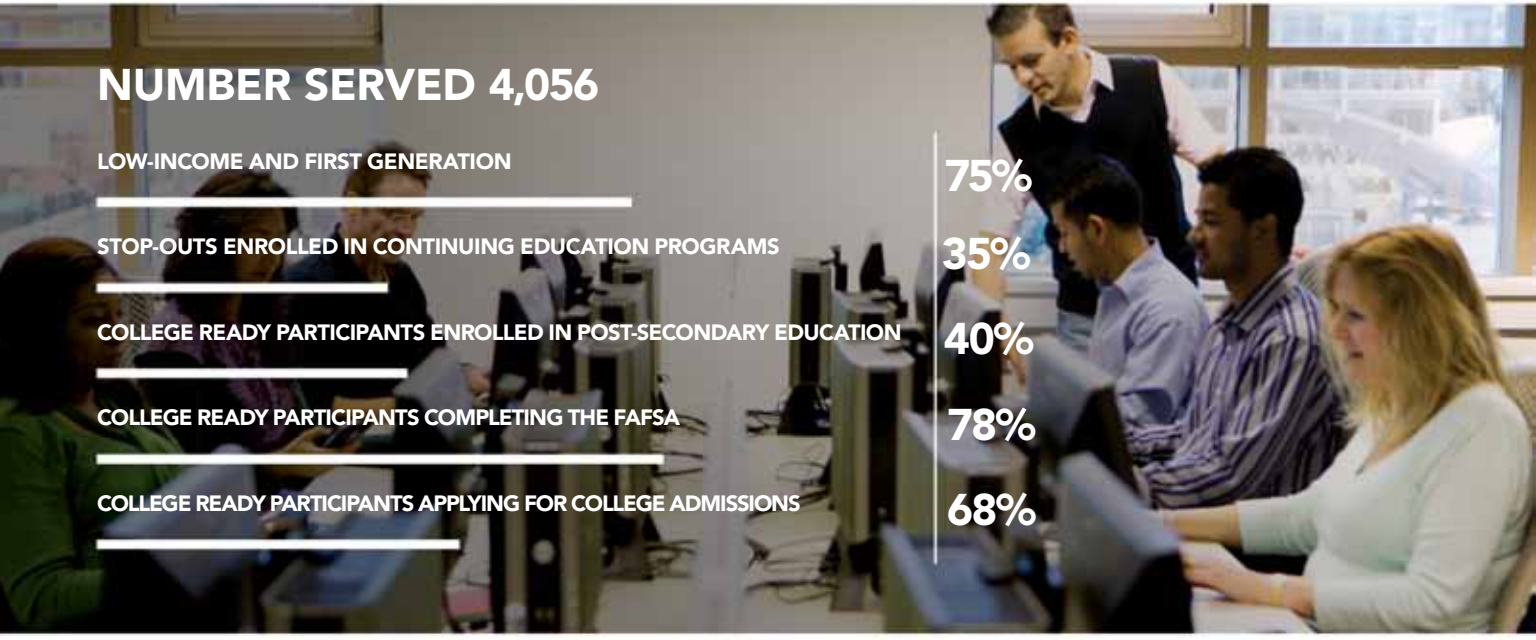
I am from an immigrant Mexican family and the first to receive a Doctoral degree. My accomplishments were possible due to the endless support and assistance I received from EWU TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) and McNair Scholar programs. These TRiO programs helped me to overcome personal and educational challenges, introduced me to new academic horizons, and encouraged me to believe in my potential.

As an English language learner and first generation college student I lacked the educational techniques to succeed in college. SSS assisted me with study-skills, note taking and writing essays. Similarly, I would have never dared to think that I was PhD material without the McNair program where I learned the importance of creating knowledge through research and the power of teaching. TRiO programs instilled in my life the possibilities, nurtured my self-confidence, and encouraged me to find my inner-courage to complete my PhD.

For this I'm deeply thankful. Now, I have the privilege to influence the lives of our future leaders in society—my students. Having received my Doctorate in Cultural Studies & Social Thought from Washington State University in 2009, I currently teach in the fields of Chicano Studies, Sociology and Gender Studies at EWU.

Educational Opportunity Centers

The primary purpose of the Educational Opportunity Center is to increase the number of adult (19+) participants who enroll in programs of postsecondary education. EOC programs may also provide services to youth provided no Talent Search or Upward Bound program exists in the area.



Services

- Academic advising
- Personal counseling
- Career workshops
- Information on post secondary education opportunities
- Information on student financial assistance
- Tutoring
- Mentoring
- Assistance in completing applications for admissions and financial aid
- Coordination with nearby post secondary institutions

Gary Waldron Metropolitan Development Council

SUCCESS STORY

The catalyst that helped shape the road I now tread is one that I also thought would end my life. Prison has such a negative stigma attached to it and that led me to think that my life was over. I am not proud of the events that sent me to prison and I am regretful for the pain I caused, however I am thankful for the positive effect going to prison had on me. I knew I had to change my life around and the one ingredient that had to be a part of my life to ensure success was to have my future grounded in education.

I had no clue on where to start, though in my quest to obtain that component I started to reach out to community agencies in the Tacoma area. TRiO responded back to me and we started a correspondence that spanned several months. Scott, an educational advisor at EOC helped me get in contact with TCC and helped me through the whole process. He helped me build confidence through his words of encouragement and without his help I may not even be in school today. I was privileged to be able to intern at EOC and have a grown a passion for wanting to help out youth who may have been in my situation. Now I am in the process of transferring to the University of Washington and I hope to gain acceptance to their School of Social Welfare. EOC has been a tremendous influence on my life and I will never forget them and what they stand for.

Additional Programs and Grants

College Access Challenge Grant

The College Access Challenge Grant Program is a formula grant program from the Dept. of Education designed to foster partnerships among Federal, State, and local government entities, and philanthropic organizations. The Higher Education Coordinating Board is partnering with TRiO Talent Search programs at Seattle Community College, Tacoma Community College, University of Washington, Centralia Community College and the Metropolitan Development Council for $100,000 to significantly increase the number of underrepresented students who enter and remain in postsecondary education.

Wa-Tep

In 2007 Governor Christine Gregoire designated $500,000 through Legacy Trust funds for two years to establish and expand TRiO like programs at four universities called the Washington TRiO Expansion Program (Wa-Tep). Two universities, Eastern Washington and Central Washington, have continued these programs as part of their mission to provide support for first generation, low income and disabled students to finish college.

TRiO Training

University of Washington TRiO Training is a U.S. Department of Education funded professional development opportunity for TRiO staff. Training is offered under two different priorities established by the Department of Education.

PRIORITY 1

Record Keeping: Assist participants with identifying effective ways to collect, record and analyze the data that will serve to meet each TRiO program's objectives.

APR's: Reporting Student and Project Performance: Provides TRiO personnel with effective strategies for reporting student and project performance to the Department of Education.

Evaluation: Provide TRiO personnel with information and resources on how to conduct formative and summative evaluations in order to improve the performance of the project staff and the project as a whole.

PRIORITY 3

Assessment of Student Needs: Teaches participants how to assess the needs of their students and how to tailor counseling and support to the specific needs of each student.

Graduation & Retention: Presents strategies that have proven results in supporting TRiO projects or projects serving TRiO-eligible students with demonstrated growth in retention and graduation rates.

Educational Technology: Addresses different ways that TRiO personnel can use technology to both manage their project and provide services to students, with an emphasis on services to students that utilize educational technology.

Contact and Additional Information

For more information on TRiO Programs in Washington State and Nationally go to:

Helpful websites

Washington TRiO: www.washingtontrio.org
NASP: Northwest Association of Special Programs: www.nasp-trio.org
Council for Opportunity in Education: www.coenet.us
US Department of Education TRiO Homepage: www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/index.html

Contact information

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