

TSS NEWS

Spring Newsletter 2024



TRIO Talent Search- South

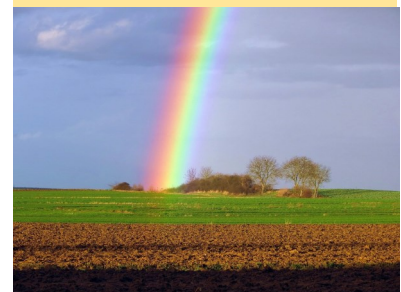


Director's Message

As the school year comes to an end, it is important to recognize those seniors at South High School and eighth graders at Truesdell Middle School for completing all requirements to move on to the next phase in their academic life. Whether that is beginning high school for the first time or going on to college for the first time, the Talent Search-South staff want to congratulate and wish the students well on whatever and wherever the next journey in life takes them. The staff realizes that making it this far was not easy and the road ahead can be daunting. However, with hard work and perseverance, anything is possible and most likely to result in success. Believing in oneself, even when others may not share the same view, is priceless. Students should take some time to reflect on their success, celebrate their accomplishments, and get in the right mindset to continue forward. Best wishes!

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National TRIO/GEAR UP Day

On February 24, 1986, a congressional resolution (H. Con. Res. 278) declared that Saturday, February 28, 1986, should be designated as “National TRIO Day” to commemorate the annual achievements of the Federal TRIO programs in communities across the country.

- Source: <https://coenet.org/national-trio-day-2/>

Each year, typically during the month of February, the TRIO programs at Wichita State gather for a recognition ceremony, perform community service, or collaborate in some way to highlight the important impact of TRIO programs. This year, the TRIO Talent Search-South staff and select students volunteered at the Kansas Food Bank. The staff also continued previous year’s efforts to donate books to local Little Free Libraries to promote literacy in the neighborhoods.

The Kansas Food Bank has programs that provide healthy foods, including fresh produce, to families and seniors in need. This includes the underemployed, unemployed, low or fixed income residents. Their mobile hygiene pantries also provide prepacked bags of laundry detergent, toilet paper, deodorant, shampoo, and body wash. The TSS team helped to assemble bags of apples for people’s need for nutritious food.

Local Little Free Libraries operate on the basis of taking a book and sharing a book. The purpose is to establish equitable 24/7 book access in each community and inspire readers through diverse literary options and community partnerships. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are essential elements to the success of this community effort.

For more information or to learn how to support these programs, visit: <https://kansasfoodbank.org/> or <https://littlefreelibrary.org/about/>.

National TRIO Day

What is TRIO Day?

National TRIO Day is a day dedicated to recognizing the transformative power of TRIO programs in the lives of students across the nation. It serves as a time to honor the history and success of TRIO, as well as a chance to advocate for continued support.

Why do we celebrate National TRIO Day?

TRIO programs have a rich history of empowering first-generation, low-income, and students with disabilities to overcome barriers and pursue higher education. National TRIO Day allows these programs to showcase the achievements of their scholars, the dedication of the staff, and the impact TRIO has on creating opportunities for success.

- Source: EOA@wildapricot.org

National TRIO/GEAR UP Day Celebration at Wichita State University's Woolsey Hall 2/16.



In honor of National TRIO/GEAR UP Day, WSU partnered with TRIO/GEAR UP programs housed on its campus (nine TRIO and two GEAR UP) to host a celebration for first-generation, limited income students seeking higher education. The event kicked off with messages of support from Associate Vice President Deltha Q. Colvin and Shirly Lefever, Ph.D., first-generation alumna and executive vice president and provost for Academic Affairs. Then, representatives from the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid shared campus resources available to incoming Shockers. Next, the keynote speaker Hoan Do was introduced. Do is an award-winning inspirational speaker, city finalist NBC's hit show American Ninja Warrior, and author of *Creating Momentum in Your Life*. Do provided life-changing insights on overcoming negative thoughts and emotions to create a more positive mindset. He also shared a three-step concept called GPS based on Goals, Purpose, and Strategies to impact progress and propel first-gen students towards their goals for a better quality of life. According to Do, "Life is a team sport. Your team consists of mentors who pour into you; they coach you. Teammates/friends support and encourage you, cheering you on and mentees are the ones whose lives you pour into." WSU Counseling and Preventative Services Mental Health Counselor Chuckwunenye Nweke closed out the event with breathing techniques, a discussion on the importance of good mental health, and an interactive exercise that showed participants how powerful positive reinforcement and persuasion can boost confidence and improve mental health.





Scholarships

Free Money!! KKGU Scholarship

TRIO has teamed up with the Kansas Kids at GEAR UP (KKGU) to help provide students with scholarship opportunities and funding. Students who are obtaining a college degree are eligible to apply regardless of whether they are pursuing a two-year associate degree or a four-year bachelor's degree.

There is an online application process which takes less than five minutes to complete. Once the application is processed, students will be notified by email of supporting documents needed such as college schedule, tuition fees, and housing costs. Please reach out to a program advisor for more information on how to apply.

Program Objectives for 2022-2023

For the TSS grant to be funded by the Department of Education, the program must meet program objectives stated within the grant proposal. For the 2022-2023 grant year, all program objectives exceeded the minimum requirements! Prior experience points were earned which will increase the chances to become refunded in the future.

- ⇒ **100%** of non-senior participants served each project year will complete the current academic year and continue in school for the next academic year, at the next grade level.
- ⇒ **90%** of seniors served during the project year will graduate during the project year with a regular secondary school diploma within the standard number of years.
- ⇒ **32%** of seniors served during the project year will complete a rigorous secondary school program and will graduate during project year with a regular secondary school diploma within the standard number of years.
- ⇒ **56%** of participants, who graduated with a regular secondary school diploma, during the project year, will enroll in an institution of higher education by the fall term immediately following high school graduation or will have received notification, by the fall term immediately following high school, from an institution of higher education, of acceptance but deferred enrollment until the next academic term (e.g. spring term).

Graduating Seniors

The Talent Search-South staff is proud of this year's graduates. The staff wishes them all the best in their future endeavors and hope that they will keep striving for excellence and the rich benefits of a higher education. Talent Search-South graduates are a testament that TRIO works!



"If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you. If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you." - Zig Ziglar

National Student Leadership Congress

Abigail B., a sophomore attending South High School was nominated by Assistant Director/Statistician Vivian Pham to attend this unique student conference in Washington, DC. This is an intensive learning experience for TRIO students to network and enhance their leadership skills. The conference is hosted by the Council for Opportunity in Education and held at Georgetown University. Students will engage in a mock congress competition, team building activities, diversity and inclusion training, a day at Capitol Hill, and much more. Only 180 students are selected to participate in this program. Participants must meet the criteria below:

1. Participant of a TRIO program
2. Minimum 3.0 GPA
3. Rising junior or senior prior to the event

For students interested in this opportunity, please contact program



Middle School Summer Enrichment Program (SEP)

The **FREE** SEP is scheduled for June 3-July 12, 2024. Sign up to experience college campus tours, fun educational and cultural activities, free meals, exciting field trips, and interaction with peers. Motivational guest speakers will share their expertise and experience in their chosen career fields. Classes will include English, math, science/robotics, and financial literacy/life skills. Applications go online March 4th and can be downloaded at www.wichita.edu/tss or students can contact a program advisor for more information. The main office number is 316-978-3560.



Calendar Events

MARCH

- ◆ 5—WSU Campus Visit
- ◆ 7-9—No School
- ◆ 10—ACT Administration
- ◆ 11—Middle School Summer Enrichment Program Applications Available Online
- ◆ 16—No School
- ◆ 26—Southwestern College Campus Tour

APRIL

- ◆ 4-6—TRIO Student Access and Success Conference, North Carolina Central University (NCCU)
- ◆ 9—Butler Community College Campus Tour
- ◆ 12-15—No School
- ◆ 24—Pittsburg State University Campus Tour

MAY

- ◆ 4—SAT Administration
- ◆ 24—Last Day of School
- ◆ 27—Memorial Day



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MISSION STATEMENT

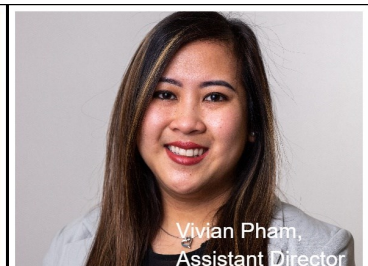
The mission of the TRIO Talent Search-South program is to identify, encourage, and assist low income and potential first generation college students to complete a secondary education, enroll in postsecondary education, and complete a postsecondary program.

STAFF

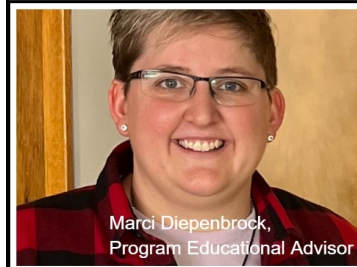
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Funding Notice:

TRIO Talent Search is 100% funded by the United States Department of Education and is hosted by WSU. Funding for 2022-2023 is \$277,375.

Notice of Nondiscrimination:

Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age (40 years or older), ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260, telephone 316-978-3187.

