



TS EXPRESS

NEWSLETTER

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TRiO
TALENT SEARCH

Director's Message

Hello and welcome to another school year! As schools reopen their doors to students once again and the familiarity of school bells, Friday night football games, and crowded hallways return, students should remain vigilant and aim to take care of their health and the health of all those who they come in contact with. The COVID-19 pandemic is still a threat to us all.

In other news, Wichita State University recently learned that the TRIO Talent Search program was refunded for another five years. This news, as one can imagine, was met with enthusiasm and great joy. TRIO Talent Search will continue for the next several years and provide important services such as tutoring, campus visits, ACT-SAT prep, advising on postsecondary opportunities, including financial aid and scholarships, and many other services devoted to preparing students for postsecondary education.

The program will provide support to the students at these target schools in USD 259: Brooks, Curtis, Gordon Parks Academy, Hamilton, Jardine, Mayberry, North, Southeast, and West. The staff is excited and ready to serve these school communities.

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Student Spotlight: Tajunique

- Myron Richard, Program Educational Advisor | Mentoring and Career Coordinator



Tajunique is a junior at Wichita West High School and has been an active participant in TRIO Talent Search for three years. Tajunique loves working with children, learning about diseases and treatment, and helping others. Her personal goal is to earn an academic scholarship and attend medical school to become a pediatrician. She is on track to graduate early and start her college journey. Tajunique also enjoys playing basketball and is often helping the coach design new plays for the upcoming season. She is an avid reader and enjoys helping her younger brother with his homework.



Alumna: Madison Davis

- Sharon K. Robertson, Senior Administrative Assistant

Madison Davis is a former TRIO Talent Search participant. She graduated from Wichita State University with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 2019 and received her master's degree in 2021. She is now an instructor and counselor/advisor at Wichita State.

Madison recently participated as a panelist for the Middle School Summer Enrichment Program where she shared her career journey. Madison worked as a teaching assistant in graduate school and gained the attention of her instructors for being punctual, reliable, and a successful student. Her instructors paid attention to how well she interacted with students and that earned her the opportunity to teach criminal justice for an entire semester – creating her own lesson plans.

According to Madison, “Employers like people who are responsible, ethical, and do the right thing. Either do it right or don’t do it at all. You never know who is watching and taking note of how you conduct yourself.” The way Madison presents herself in and out of the classroom has propelled her forward. She is a testament to how TRIO works! TRIO Talent Search congratulates Madison on all her achievements and is proud to have been a part of her journey.

May this encourage more students to do the right thing:

- Show up and approach everything with the right attitude. Believe to achieve!
- Be prepared and participate with purpose.
- Set S.M.A.R.T. Goals – Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Reasonable, and Timely.
- Study hard and maximize every opportunity.
- Enjoy the journey by learning from mistakes and resetting the goals when needed.
- Don’t be afraid to ask for help. Talent Search is here to assist students.



Back to School

- Stephanie Haynes, Middle School Director



Going back to the classroom and adjusting to a new schedule can be quite challenging for everyone, especially during this time of uncertainty. For students, it can be difficult to move from remote learning to returning to a physical classroom because it has been over a year since students have been in a normal school setting. There has been no in person contact or socialization with peers which is needed for personal growth and mental development. Teachers had to change their teaching styles, rewrite lesson plans, and become IT support systems for students. Parents had to become co-teachers and co-learners to help with homework while still being a parent too! All the challenges endured have increased stress in each person's daily routine.

Here are some ways to decrease stress as classrooms reopen:

1. **Practice Continuous Self-Care:** Set time aside to just breathe and do things that bring joy. It can be as little as a 15-minute breathing exercise or meditation.
2. **Be Flexible:** Things can change suddenly. Be ready to go with the flow and adapt.
3. **Extend Grace:** See mistakes as opportunities to learn. Everyone must adjust to the new norms and it is not always an easy task.
4. **Follow the Recommendations:** Stay informed. Listen and heed recommendations provided by local and state government officials. Protect others as well as oneself.
5. **Accept Help:** TRIO Talent Search is here not only for academic support but overall support. The staff cares about the success of each student.

We are family and we will conquer this together!



Campus Visit Schedule 2021-2022

- Mani Souriya, Associate Director | Statistician

The process of finding the best college fit requires exploration and research. The College Scorecard tool at <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov> can assist students in researching their colleges of choice. Whether one chooses to pursue a certificate program, two-year associate degree, or a four-year bachelor's degree, postsecondary education can be expensive even with financial aid. Therefore, every student should ask themselves important questions to take into consideration when searching for a college. Some of the criteria that students need to consider are college type, admission requirements, majors, location, overall cost, available financial aid, institution size, and academic opportunities.

Here is a list of the college campus visits scheduled for 2021-2022:

- **Emporia State University:** Friday, October 8, 2021
- **WSU Tech (NCAT & South):** Friday, October 15, 2021
- **Kansas State University:** Thursday, November 11, 2021
- **University of Kansas:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021*
- **Hutchinson Community College:** Friday, December 3, 2021
- **Cowley College:** Friday, March 11, 2022*
- **Wichita State University:** Wednesday, March 30, 2022*
- **Butler CCC (El Dorado & Andover):** Friday, April 8, 2022
- **Newman University:** Monday, April 18, 2022

*Not yet confirmed and subject to change.

Campus visits are subject to change. Some campus tours may be changed to a virtual format due to COVID-19 restrictions. For additional information, please contact Mani Souriya at 316-978-6757 or manivone.souriya@wichita.edu.

Complete the "Campus Visit Permission/Consent Form for 2021-2022" online by first downloading the QR scanner application and then use it to scan the QR Code here on the right.



Money Matters

- Sara Baltazar, Program Educational Advisor | Financial Literacy Coordinator



Welcome back, students!

Hopefully, summer break was relaxing. Now, it is time to get back to business and make sure everything is on track to complete this year's goals. Below are a couple of dates to add to the calendar and resources to check out.

Scholarships:

**Make sure to click on the link for the application and more information!*

Gates Scholarship:

Deadline: September 15, 2021

Award: Full Ride

<https://www.thegatesscholarship.org/scholarship>

QuestBridge:

Deadline: September 28, 2021

Award: Full Ride

<https://www.questbridge.org/>

Important dates:

FAFSA 2021-2022 school year:

Application opens October 1, 2021

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

Apply Kansas

Available October 2021. See your TS counselor or CCC for more help applying!

<https://www.kansasregents.org/students/apply-kansas>

Resources:

College Greenlight:

<https://www.collegegreenlight.com/>

Scholarships.com:

<https://www.scholarships.com/>

Youth Employment:

<https://workforce-ks.com/communityoutreach/youthemploymentproject/>

Stay Connected!
Add TS on the Remind app!
Find TS on YouTube and Facebook!
Or check out the website:
www.wichita.edu/talentsearch



Next Chapter

- Vivian Pham, Program Educational Advisor | ACT Coordinator



Program Educational Advisor Vivian Pham recently accepted a position with TRIO Student Support Services at Wichita State University. Pham will now be working with students on the college level. TRIO Talent Search is sad to see her go but wishes her well as she embarks on this new endeavor, working with a fellow TRIO program. Congratulations Vivian!

Message from Vivian Pham to Students:

"Dear Talent Search Staff and Students,

I am so grateful for all the opportunities and experiences TRIO Talent Search has given me these past three years. It has impacted my life positively in so many ways. Being a part of the Talent Search staff has developed my growth and enhanced my skills as a continued educator. It has been a pleasure working with the Talent Search participants.

I am pleased to announce that I will not be going far. I have accepted the position as Academic Advisor/Study Skills Coordinator for TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) on the WSU main campus. I want to thank you for all of the great memories and wish all of the students a wonderful 2021-2022 school year!"

Pham's replacement will begin in September. More information is available on the TRIO Talent Search website about services and activities for the students attending Curtis and Southeast.

Calendar Events

MISSION STATEMENT

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

TRIO Talent Search

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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.

Notice of Funding:

TRIO Talent Search is 100% funded by the United States Department of Education and is hosted by WSU. Funding for 2020-2021 is \$646,284.

September 2021

9/3 | SAT Registration Deadline
9/6 | Labor Day; **No School**
9/7 | **No School**
9/11 | ACT Test
9/17 | ACT Registration Deadline

October 2021

10/2 | SAT Test
10/8 | SAT Registration Deadline; ESU Campus Visit
10/15 | **No School**; WSU Tech (NCAT & South) Campus Visit
10/18 | **No School**
10/23 | ACT Test
10/31 | Halloween

November 2021

11/4 | SAT Registration Deadline
11/5 | ACT Registration Deadline
11/6 | SAT Test
11/11 | Veteran's Day; **No School**; KSU Campus Visit
11/17 | KU Campus Visit
11/24-26 | **No School**; Fall Recess
11/25 | Thanksgiving



Program Staff

Clockwise: Mani Souriya, Associate Director/Statistician, **Stephanie Haynes**, Middle School Director, **Vivian Pham**, Program Educational Advisor/ACT-SAT Coordinator, **Sara Baltazar**, Program Educational Advisor/Financial Literacy Coordinator, **Myron Richard**, Program Educational Advisor/Mentoring Coordinator, **Sharon K. Robertson**, Senior Administrative Assistant, and **Larry Ramos**, Program Director