



TS EXPRESS



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

*Success requires
ACTION. Get busy!*



It is with great hope and sincere appreciation that everyone is not only surviving the COVID-19 pandemic but thriving in it. The staff at TRIO Talent Search is striving to ensure that students have resources and opportunities that can help them become even better students. Winston Churchill once said, "Never let a good crisis go to waste."

Students have two choices during virtual school. One is to focus on all that is bad or wrong with the world right now (and no one would disagree that there is a lot wrong). The other view, which students may find more comforting, is to embrace this moment and work hard at becoming not just a better student but a better person. TRIO Talent Search can help.

The program offers tutoring, mentoring, mental health and wellness resources, college prep advising, campus visits, and many other services. TRIO Talent Search advisors are ready and eager to share their wisdom and resources with students.

Seniors are especially important to the program because there is a lot of preparation involved in the next step leading to college: completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), registering for the ACT/SAT exam, applying for scholarships, meeting college admission requirements, and exploring career options. These things need to be done sooner rather than later, so students need to embrace this new normal in order to succeed.

The world is not slowing down and neither is TRIO Talent Search. The program is here to assist students on their journey. Good luck this year and know that the support is here to adjust to this new normal and prepare for a better tomorrow.

NEWSLETTER

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TRIO Talent Search is 100% funded by the United States Department of Education and is hosted by Wichita State University.

SERVICES PROVIDED:

- Campus Visits
- Mentoring, Career and Personal Counseling
- Tutoring & After School Tutoring Program
- Middle School Summer Enrichment Program
- College Admissions, Financial Aid, and Financial Literacy Programs
- ACT & SAT Test Prep

TRIO WORKS

Ronald Reagan Student Leadership Program

- Sharon K. Robertson, Senior Administrative Assistant



Kimberly

July 20, 2020—Congratulations to Southeast High ninth grader Kimberly for being selected from a national pool to participate in the Ronald Reagan Student Leadership Program. The program offers student-driven activities to cultivate leadership skills, mentoring opportunities, connections to peers across the nation, and a Leadership Action Plan to increase civic engagement and improve services to the community. Program alumni have received significant college scholarship awards and have led projects which have positive impacts on their communities. Here is Kimberly's account of this important event.

“At the beginning of the Ronald Reagan Student Leadership Program (SLP), we introduced ourselves and talked about what we liked. This helped us to know more about a lot of people so that we be could be more confident and comfortable talking to other students.

During the SLP, we played games that were a lot of fun. We also participated in a debating activity, talked about the personality compass, and participated in a discussion about leadership action plans, using “why” statements. For example, I wondered why people choose to do certain activities or sell certain things. My why statement is that I want to sell my art because some people think art is calming and cool to look at.

One of the most valuable things I learned during the SLP is that we need to support and value each other's opinions. I also learned about helping homeless people and making cool things for the homeless shelter. I especially liked it when the SLP ambassadors gave me suggestions on what to do with my homeless shelter project including, for example, to maximize resources and limit the accumulation of food waste. My group developed a plan to have leftover fruits and vegetables transferred from the public schools to the homeless shelters. Based on my experience, I would 100 percent recommend for students to participate in the SLP.”

Money, Money, Money!

- Sara Baltazar, Program Educational Advisor



Hey students, hope the summer was a great break. Even though the school start date was delayed, scholarship deadlines are still in place so be on the lookout and apply to as many of them as possible. In the meantime, here are some valuable resources and dates to add to the calendar.

SCHOLARSHIPS *(Click on the links below for the applications and more details):*

Give Something Back Scholarship

Deadline: December 15, 2020

Award: Full Ride

<https://www.giveback.ngo>

IMPORTANT DATES:

FAFSA 2020-2021 School Year

Applications open October 1, 2020

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

Apply Kansas

Available October 2020. See a TS PEA or CCC for help applying!

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

OTHER RESOURCES:

College Greenlight:

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

Scholarships.com:

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

Youth Employment:

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

Stay Connected!

Add us on the Remind app!

Find us on YouTube and Facebook!

Mentoring Services

- Myron Richard, Program Educational Advisor

Hello everyone and welcome back to school! During these unprecedented times, some students may have mixed feelings about face-to-face contact. Naturally, students may feel anxious or a little panicked. Many of them are probably experiencing a lot of unknowns as everyone adjusts to the school district's plans for the fall semester. Talent Search is available to program participants for mentoring and career advice through in-person or Zoom meetings. Please call 316.978.3127 to schedule an appointment.



Virtual Campus Visits 2020-2021

- Mani Souriya, Associate Director /Statistician

Campus visits play a vital role in the college admissions process and gives students the opportunity to get a firsthand view of college life. TRIO Talent Search will continue to promote student success despite the COVID-19 pandemic. There are no plans at this time to discontinue any campus visits for the 2020-2021 academic year. However, to protect students and staff, TRIO Talent Search will offer interactive virtual campus visits where students will be able to see live presentations including:



College Admissions



Financial Aid



Student Panels



Narrated Campus Tours

Most virtual tours will be conducted via Zoom. Finalized destinations, dates, and times will be included on Facebook Groups: TRIO Talent Search WSU and on the program's website (<https://www.wichita.edu/talentsearch>). For additional information, contact Mani Souriya at 316.978.6757.

FREE TUTORING

- Stephanie Haynes, Middle School Director

Returning to school this fall is going to be an unusual challenge for all. Talent Search is here to help by offering virtual tutoring, homework assistance, as well as in-person tutoring by appointment only.

Tutoring services for grades 6-12 will begin on September 21, 2020 and held Monday-Friday at various times in most subject areas.

Virtual tutoring will be offered using Google Classroom. In-person tutoring will be held in Brennan Hall 1, room 314 from 3-6 p.m. (M-Th). All in-person tutoring will follow the necessary health and safety guidelines to protect both students and staff.

In addition, the program is partnering with Method Test Prep to offer math tutoring from 7-8 p.m. (M-Th) for middle school and high school courses.

Call 316.978.6000 to schedule an appointment or visit the program's website to schedule a session. Don't delay in getting the help needed to have a successful semester.



ACT Update

- Vivian Pham, Program Educational Advisor

With the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, everyone is trying to figure out how to navigate and overcome the current reality.

Students may be dealing with a myriad of emotions and it is okay to express those feelings. Just know that TRIO Talent Search is here to offer support and help students find positive ways to cope and succeed.

Soon, it will be time to prepare for the ACT test. Testing schedules at Wichita high schools may vary considering that 6-12 grade students

are attending school remotely. Students need to contact their school liaison before registering for the ACT to make sure their school is an authorized test center.

Seniors need to pay close attention to the scholarship application requirements on each website they apply to. Many may find that ACT scores are not excused as an application requirement; however, many colleges may excuse ACT scores for admissions requirements.

Unfortunately, Talent Search will not be able to offer in-person ACT prep workshops this fall. However, tutors are available to assist with test subjects. ACT practice tests can also be found at www.act.org.

Program participants can also contact the Talent Search ACT coordinator with ACT test questions or test registration. Call 316.978.6754 or email Vivian.pham@wichita.edu.

Important 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 post-secondary program.



**WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Program Staff

Larry Ramos, Program Director

Mani Souriya,

Associate Director/Statistician

Stephanie Haynes, Middle School Director

Myron Richard, Program Educational
Advisor/Mentoring Coordinator

Sara Baltazar, Program Educational
Advisor/Financial Literacy Coordinator

Vivian Pham, Program Educational
Advisor/ACT-SAT Coordinator

Sharon K. Robertson,
Senior Administrative Assistant

TRIO Talent Search

Wichita State University

Division of Regional Engagement
and Economic Development

1845 Fairmount Street , Campus Box 96
Wichita, KS 67260-0096

Office: 316.978.3127 | Fax: 316.978.3527
<https://www.wichita.edu/talentsearch>

September

9/4 SAT Registration Deadline
9/7 Labor Day Holiday
9/8 USD 259 First day of school
9/8 International Literacy Day
9/12, 13, 19 ACT Test Dates
9/26 SAT Test Date

October

10/3 SAT Test Date
10/7 SAT Registration Deadline
10/10, 17, 24, 25 ACT Test Dates
10/31 Halloween

November

11/5 SAT Registration Deadline
11/6 USD 259 No School
11/7 SAT Test Date
11/11 Veterans Day Holiday
11/25 USD 259 No School
11/26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday; No Classes



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