



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, Congress established a series of programs to help low-income Americans enter college, graduate and move on to participate more fully in America's economic and social life. These programs are funded under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and are referred to as the TRIO Programs (initially just three programs). While student financial aid programs help students overcome financial barriers to higher education. TRIO programs help students overcome class, social and cultural barriers to higher education. The Federal TRIO Programs are:

- Educational Opportunity Center
- Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program
- Student Support Services
- Talent Search
- Upward Bound
- Upward Bound Math and Science
- Veterans Upward Bound

TRIO services include: assistance in choosing a college; tutoring; personal and financial counseling; career counseling; assistance in applying to college; workplace and college visit; special instruction in reading, writing, study skills and mathematics; assistance in applying for financial aid; and academic assistance in high school or assistance to re-enter high school or college.

WHO IS SERVED?

As mandated by Congress, two-thirds of the students served must come from families with incomes under \$24,000 where neither parent graduated from college. Over 2,600 TRIO Programs currently serve nearly 872,000 low-income Americans between the ages of 11 and 27. Many programs serve students in grades six through 12. Thirty-seven percent of TRIO students are White, 35 percent are African-American, 19 percent are Hispanic, four percent are Native American, four percent are Asian-American and one percent are multiethnic. Sixteen thousand TRIO students are disabled.