

SUMMER 2023



Director's Introduction *Kristopher Hatcher, Ed.D.*

Greetings colleagues! I realized upon coming back to GCSC in April that numerous faculty and staff are unaware of what TRIO does. It subsequently became apparent that occasionally sending a newsletter would be helpful to inform everyone about our services, events, and impact. Accordingly, TRIO humbly submits the first installment of our semesterly newsletter—titled "Works!"

To provide you with an initial overview, the Federal TRIO Programs are outreach and student services grants offered by the U.S. Department of Education to provide assistance for people from disadvantaged backgrounds. TRIO started with three grants back in the 1960s, but now includes eight programs targeted to help low-income families, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities as they progress through the academic pipeline. Each grant requires a competitive proposal, and awards are approved for five-year increments. GCSC currently has three TRIO grants—Upward Bound (UB), Student Support Services (SSS), and the Educational Opportunity Center (EOC). Please continue reading below for an update on each program.

<https://www.gulfcoast.edu/trio>

Turning Roadblocks Into Opportunities



Upward Bound (2022-2027)

Upward Bound (UB) is a pre-collegiate program designed to help forge students of today into leaders of tomorrow! Our focus is to prepare income eligible high schoolers who aspire to be first generation college graduates. This summer we spent six weeks of instruction in STEM, college & career readiness, goal setting, emotional intelligence, communication skills, & financial literacy. We concluded our summer with college tours at the University of Florida & University of Central Florida, and we visited Flagler College & Florida State University. Our summer trip ended with a day of fun at Universal Studios and a historic tour of St. Augustine! -Danielle Pierce

<https://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/academic-support-tutoring/trio/upward-bound.html>

Student Support Services (2020-2025)

TRIO's Student Support Services (SSS) program has been a pillar on GCSC's campus for around 40 years and is dedicated to serving college students. As we approach the upcoming fall semester, we are thrilled to announce our search for 60 exceptional individuals to join our roster. Our program provides an array of invaluable benefits, including intensive tutorial support, personalized academic guidance, assistance in securing financial resources for college, and facilitation with smooth transfers to 4-year universities. Please refer any student who may benefit from our additional academic support services and we will assess their eligibility. Together, we can empower and ensure student success! -Kendra Kizziah

<https://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/academic-support-tutoring/trio/student-support-services.html>



Educational Opportunity Center (2021-2026)

The Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) is an on-ramp for higher education. Here to assist disadvantaged individuals navigating life, TRIO's EOC has a focus on helping students level up to their next step in school. Whether that means completing a HS/GED program or applying to attend a college, technical school, or university of their choice, the EOC is here to assist participants with all of their pre-registration tasks. For many, the friendly support of the EOC is invaluable as they complete applications for admission, financial aid & scholarships, in addition to tutoring & study support while attending. We are here to help smooth your mountains into molehills; come see us! -Lisa Fritch

<https://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/academic-support-tutoring/trio/educational-opportunity-center.html>

