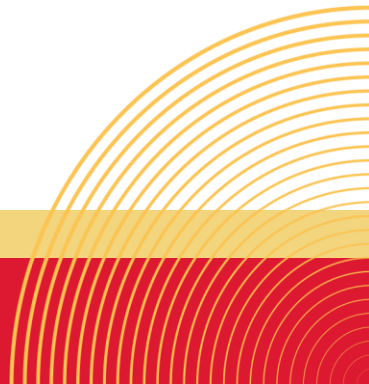


#TRIOWorks: Providing a Community of Support for First- generation, Low-income, Students with a Disability

Monica Martinez

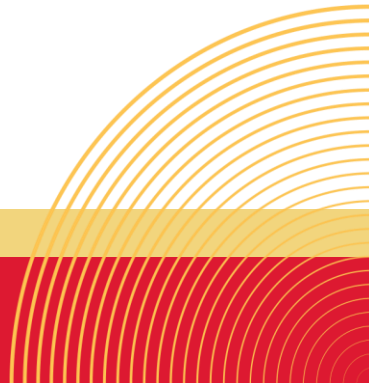
Assistant Director

TRIO Student Support Services



Learning Outcomes

- Gain an understanding of our program purpose, population, and services
- Learn strategies to support students based on our support systems
- Discuss opportunities for future services and improvements



TRIO SSS

- Serves 250 students who identify as:
 - first-generation college students
 - low-income status
 - diagnosed disability
- Offers services and support to help students achieve academic and personal success
- Goal to increase student persistence and graduation rates



Image: Students painting canvases in the TRIO SSS office.

Why #TRIOWorks?



dhstalentsearch We had a great time at the Build Texas Proud Expo today 🏗️ Students spoke to various employers/schools and even tried out welding, drilling, and cutting wood! We closed the afternoon with a BBQ sandwich and complimentary Bahama Buck's 🍷 Stay tuned for our next great adventure! #TRIOworks

1h



trioss_Ic 🔑 "Calling all TRIO Juniors and Seniors!" Join us tomorrow at 5:00 pm in the TRIO Lab to learn how to maximize your career skills. #TRIOworks #livingstonecollege #whoyawit #LCTRIO

Edited · 3w



uwosss What an incredible week! Thank you to those who stopped on by for groups! We hope to meet more new faces through the semester! #trioss #uwoshkosh #TRIOWorks

1w

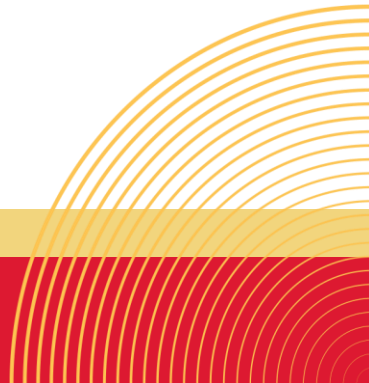


Image: A group of students at the End of Year Celebration holding up yellow, red, and silver stars.

#trioworks

First-generation College Students

- An individual with a parent/parents that did not complete a 4-year degree at a college or university
- Who is considered first-generation?
 - Students with parents that completed a few college credits or completed a 2-year degree
 - Students with parents that have international degrees (varies across institutions)



Low-income College Students

Federal TRIO Programs Current-Year Low-Income Levels

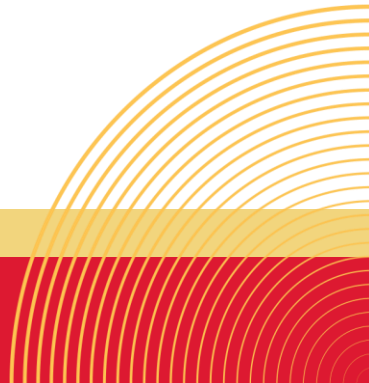
(Effective **January 11, 2024** until further notice)

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States, D.C., and Outlying Jurisdictions	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$22,590	\$28,215	\$25,965
2	\$30,660	\$38,310	\$35,250
3	\$38,730	\$48,405	\$44,535
4	\$46,800	\$58,500	\$53,820
5	\$54,870	\$68,595	\$63,105
6	\$62,940	\$78,690	\$72,390
7	\$71,010	\$88,785	\$81,675
8	\$79,080	\$98,880	\$90,960

An individual from a family whose taxable income for the preceding year did not exceed 150% of the poverty level

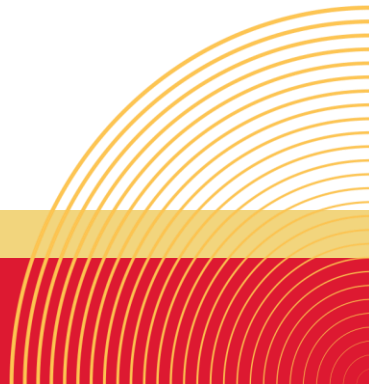
College Students with a Disability

- Eligible students are those identified by a professional as having a disability (physical or cognitive) that is documented by the institution



Challenges Specific to TRIO Students

- Racism, classism, stigma, and feelings of isolation (Means & Pyne, 2017; Bolt et al., 2011).
- Stigma associated with disability disclosure and system level-factors impacting access to accommodations (Bolt et al., 2011; Wilke et al., 2019).
- Questioning sense of academic and social belonging (Means & Pyne, 2017).
- Less likely to ask for help (Yee, 2016).
- Financial hardships (Long & Riley, 2007).



How we Support Students

Advising

Peer Mentorship

Programming

Financial Support

Career Exploration



Image: 6 TRIO SSS Peer Mentors posing for a photo on the office couch.

How we Support Students Through Advising

- Active listening
- Storytelling/sharing
 - Openness to play behaviors
- Validation of experiences
- Connection to resources



Image: TRIO SSS office including, couch, chairs, and television.



Image: Wooden fidget and sensory toys.

How we Support Students Through Peer Mentorship

- Individualized mentorship
- Expert Learner Series
 - Exploring learning styles
 - Holistic wellness
- Peer Mentor socials



Image: Group of students holding up their paintings at a social in the Sloss House.



Image: Group of students posing for a photo at Cybowl & Billiards.

How we Support Students Through Programming

- Programming
 - Inclusive, community-oriented
 - Cultural experiences
 - Dietary & space accommodations
 - Microphones
 - Accessible presentations
 - Utilizing student feedback



Image: A group of students playing with a rainbow-colored parachute at Lied Rec.

How we Support Students Through Career Exploration

- Conscious and identity cognizant career counseling
- Networking opportunities supportive of our student population
- Graduate school and company shadow visits
- McNair Scholars partnership

The above companies are looking for 30-35 neurodivergent students to fill internship roles this summer. Hurry! Summer internship applications are due soon so scan the code below for information on how to apply!

How does this work?

- Use the QR code or [click here](#).
- Receive neurodiversity-related opportunities and information.
- Gain access to the Neuro-Inclusive Candidate Network (NCN) career resources website.

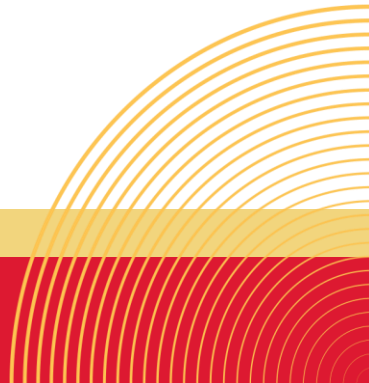
Connect with us to learn more:
Website: s.uconn.edu/cndei
Email: cndei@uconn.edu

UConn
CENTER FOR
NEURODIVERSITY AND
EMPLOYMENT INNOVATION

Image: Flyer for internship opportunities for neurodivergent students.

Future Improvements

- Integrating sensory spaces
- Creating greater accessibility in new office space
- Increasing partnerships and collaborations



Key Takeaways

- #TRIOworks
- Our program provides a series of services to support our target population
- There is always room for growth!

Image: SSS Director and 2 students laughing and smiling at the ISU football game.



Image: Joyce and 2 students smiling under a red and gold balloon arch.



Image: Student laughing behind photoshoot backdrop.



Thank you for attending!

Monica Martinez
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TRIO Student Support Service
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