

COLORADO

2024 FACT BOOK





TRIO students, alumni, and staff members at the Colorado Capitol for National TRIO Day 2024.



TRIO Programs

TRIO includes programs targeted to serve low-income individuals, first-generation students, disabled persons, and disconnected individuals as they progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs.

Purpose: To provide academic tutoring, personal counseling, mentoring, financial guidance, and other supports necessary to promote college access, retention, and graduation.

History of TRIO Programs: TRIO is a commitment that has its foundation in the Civil Rights Movement and the War on Poverty. They were the first national college access and success programs to address the serious social and cultural barriers that low-income communities face. The Higher Education Act of 2008 and reauthorization in 2010 broadened the definition of eligibility to include: homeless and foster care youth, disabled people, those with limited English proficiency, and other disconnected individuals.



Higher Education Act
Educational Talent Search

1964

1965

1968



Educational
Opportunity Centers

1972

1976



Ronald E. McNair Post
Baccalaureate
Achievement Program

1986

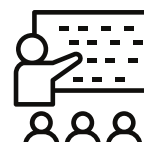
Economic Opportunity Act
Upward Bound



Student Support Services
Term "TRIO" is formed



Training program for Federal
TRIO Programs



TRIO PROGRAMS



TRIO alumni and staff participate in Policy Seminar 2023.



TRIO students participate in community service project for National TRIO Day 2020..



In left to right order: Council for Opportunity in Education President Emeritus - Dr. Arnold Mitchem, ASPIRE Past President - Cynthia Ayala, Colorado ASPIRE President - Rafael Orozco, ASPIRE President-Elect - Dariana Roybal, and ASPIRE Past President, Kelly Espinoza.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

A few of the services offered:

Talent Search (TS): Grades 6-12

- Academic, financial, career, and personal counseling
- College and career exploration

Upward Bound (UB): Grades 9-12

- Six-week intensive summer experience
- Tutoring and instruction in core subjects

UB Math/Science (UBMS): Grades 9-12, focus on Math/Science

- Exposure to university STEM faculty
- Research in math or science

Veterans UB (VUB): Military Veterans

- Assistance securing Veteran's services from locally available resources
- Short-term remedial refresher classes

Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC): Adult participants

- Financial and economic literacy
- College admissions and FAFSA application assistance

Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Program (McNair):

Graduate school preparation for undergraduate students

- Research and internship opportunities
- Graduate school and financial aid application assistance

Student Support Services (SSS): Undergraduate Students

- Tutoring services
- Financial, career, and personal counseling

CO TRIO OVERVIEW



17,477
STUDENTS
SERVED

\$22,889,480 in
funding
across eight
congressional
districts

66

PROJECTS AT 25 INSTITUTIONS:

Adams State University
Aims Community College
Arapahoe Community College
Colorado Mesa University
Colorado Mountain College
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Colorado State University Pueblo
Community College of Aurora
Community College of Denver
Denver Scholarship Foundation
Fort Lewis College
Front Range Community College
Greeley Dream Team, Inc.
LULAC National Education Service Centers, Inc.
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Northeastern Junior College
Otero Junior College
Pikes Peak Community College
Pueblo Community College
Red Rocks Community College
Trinidad State Junior College
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Denver
University of Northern Colorado

FUNDING BY DISTRICT:

District One:

\$3,426,015
9 Programs
5,151 Participants

District Five:

\$905,119
3 Programs
264 Participants

District Two:

\$5,167,129
13 Programs
3,881 Participants

District Six:

\$1,126,591
4 Programs
500 Participants

District Three:

\$8,639,639
25 Programs
5,271 Participants

District Seven:

\$571,402
2 Programs
200 Participants

District Four:

\$297,338
1 Program
180 Participants

District Eight:

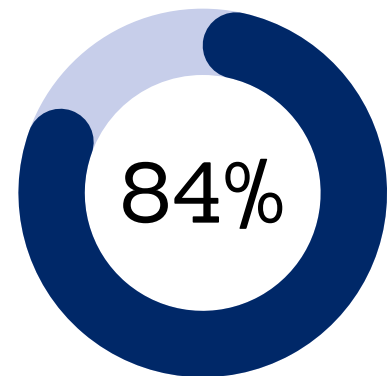
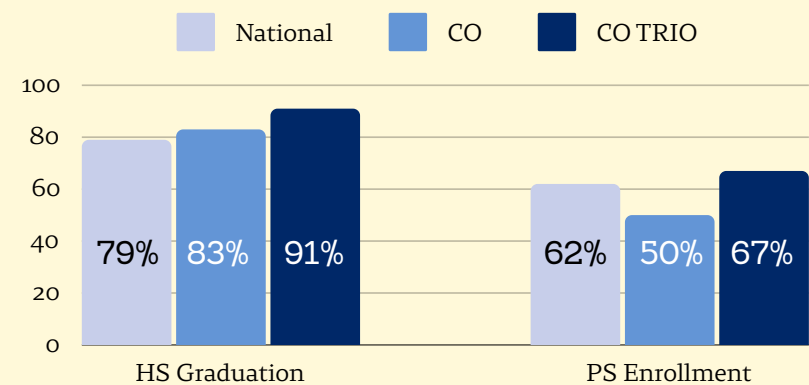
\$2,756,247
9 Programs
2,030 Participants

SSS alum celebrates
graduation from Colorado
Mesa University.

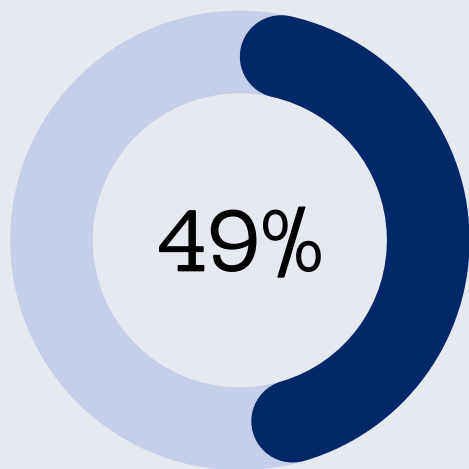


CO TRIO DATA

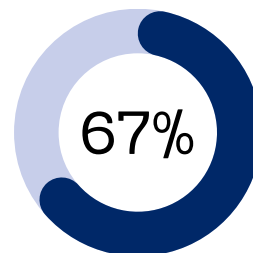
COLORADO TRIO PROGRAM OUTCOMES COMPARED TO STATE AND NATIONAL DATA



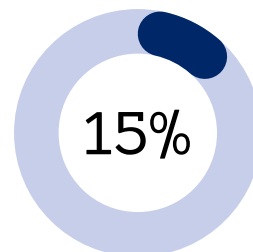
of students participating in Colorado TRIO Student Support Services programs persist to the next academic year, compared to **77%** state-wide and **76%** nationwide.



of TRIO participants complete bachelors degrees in 6 years or less, compared to **21%** of low-income, first generation college students nationwide.



of TRIO McNair participants enroll in a doctoral program immediately after undergrad studies, compared to **15%** of first generation college students nationwide.



of TRIO McNair participants complete a doctoral degree within 10 years, compared to **4%** of first generation college students nationwide.

Sources: Colorado Department of Education (2023); Colorado Department of Higher Education Pathways to Prosperity Report (2023); National Center for Education Statistics (2023); RTI International, First-generation College Graduates' Enrollment After Earning a Bachelor's Degree (2021); Pell Institute Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States (2022); Colorado TRIO Programs Data Collection (2023).

TRIO Success Stories



ALI ALNAZZAL

Arriving as a first-generation student and a refugee, I found solace in the embrace of TRIO SSS. Lost in a sea of unfamiliar faces, like guardian angels, the TRIO SSS staff embraced me as family. With unwavering support, TRIO opened the doors to knowledge that had seemed out of reach. Patiently, it honed my academic skills, turning confusion into clarity and doubt into confidence. Time became my ally as TRIO nurtured my time management skills. The skills I learned echoed in my daily routines, shaping me into a scholar of efficiency. Yet, TRIO did more than enhance my academic prowess. They sculpted a social network, weaving threads of friendship and camaraderie. What was once a solitary journey transformed into a tapestry of companionship, laughter, and shared aspirations. With a double major bachelor's and a minor in hand, I am not just a graduate. I am a testament to the transformative power of support of TRIO's dedication that turned a lost soul into a confident scholar. TRIO SSS didn't just guide me through college; they changed my life forever.

**University of Colorado-Denver SSS
CO District 1**



ESTEPHAN GARCIA

I didn't always have the focus that I do now. I lost my way for a while in high school; I was ditching classes and getting bad grades before I got enrolled in Talent Search. Talent Search helped me find some focus in my life. I didn't go straight to college after high school, but the thoughts and ideas I learned in Talent Search motivated me to go to college at the Military Academy in New York, where I earned my Bachelor's in chemistry and life sciences. I then graduated from the University of Colorado Medical School. I am currently working for the US Army as an orthopedic surgeon. Even though there were not a lot of people around me who went to college, the resources from Talent Search and a little hard work helped me get to where I am now.

**Colorado State University ETS
CO District 2**

TRIO Success Stories



ASPEN QUIRICO

Growing up in the rural San Luis Valley can be isolating. Many people I know have lived in the valley their entire lives and often lack resources and opportunities. Violin was my ticket to a better life. I began playing when I was six years old. I found TRIO Upward Bound as a high school student. TRIO helped me build confidence and resilience, which I would need to pursue a career in the music industry. After graduating from high school, I had the incredible opportunity to attend Berklee College of Music in Boston. Now, I live in Los Angeles as a full-time violinist. In my time there, I have experimented with adding the sound of violin to corridos and other mariachi styles of music. This has resulted in numerous opportunities to record music and travel for performances with famous artists. For instance, I wrote and performed the intro to Peso Pluma's historic performance at the 2023 Video Music Awards (VMAs). Without the confidence and diligence I learned in TRIO, I would not be accomplishing my dreams. I'm beyond proud to be TRIO alum!

**Adams State University UB
CO District 3**



COURTNEY HOCKING

When I graduated high school, my mother was the sole breadwinner of a family of seven. My environment was ever-changing and not always stable. As a first-generation (and conditionally accepted) student, I felt lost, alone, and unsure of how to proceed. My TRIO program gave me the structure I needed to succeed and eventually become Student Body President; it connected me to friends I now consider my family. TRIO profoundly impacted my academic life and gave me the tools to create an environment where barriers no longer seemed daunting, as I knew I had a support team. Today, working at the Colorado State Capitol, I reflect on my time in TRIO and the foundation it provided to lead me here. I can now advocate for TRIO and other first-generation serving programs; I look forward to continuing to advocate and share my story.

**Adams State University SSS
CO District 3**

TRIO Success Stories



CARLOS ARELLANO

When I was young, I knew I wanted to pursue a college degree in order to become a first-generation college graduate, but I struggled to determine what level of effort would be required to achieve this goal. The questions that I would ask myself when I was in high school were: “How do I become a successful student?”, “Where should I go to college?”, and “How do I make my family proud?” TRIO Upward Bound was the steppingstone that helped me start shaping my mindset toward determining how to answer these questions. My family encouraged me to utilize the many resources that TRIO UB offered. My siblings and I engaged in the tutoring sessions, summer programs, and counselor support throughout our high school careers. I recall specifically the challenging months leading to graduation when scholarship and college application deadlines were approaching. I’m truly grateful for the support my TRIO UB advisors provided my peers and I with developing scholarship essays and touring college campuses. I’m proud to say that I was awarded the Daniels Fund Scholarship and was able to pursue a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree at CSU Fort Collins. Looking back, the support from TRIO UB provided me with the knowledge and focus to become a successful emerging professional within the engineering and construction industry.

**Pueblo Community College UB
CO District 3**



1. ETS students visit a historical site in Rhode Island.
2. UB students tour Seattle University.

TRIO Success Stories



JACQUELYN ARELLANO

As a first-generation student, I faced unique challenges on my educational journey. While I always had the support to pursue higher education at home, I didn't feel I had access to the tools and resources I needed to succeed in school until I found TRIO Upward Bound. This program encouraged my passion for STEM subjects through interactive summer courses and ensured that I was challenged academically by helping me enroll in college courses while in high school. TRIO Upward Bound provided me with tutors to improve my ACT score, productive after-school study sessions, and even tours of college campuses across Colorado. After high school, TRIO assisted me in college through scholarship funds and on-campus support staff who helped keep me on track. Thanks to the resources and support that TRIO offered me, I graduated from Colorado State University with a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering. I now work in Denver as a Roadway Engineer pursuing my passion for improving and designing roads and bridges across the state. I am so grateful for all that TRIO Upward Bound has done for me, and I hope it continues to be a resource to future students in my community.

**Pueblo Community College UB
CO District 3**



TRIO UBMS participants celebrate First Generation Day 2023.

TRIO Success Stories



JENNI MORAN

First generation college students often face unique challenges accompanied with charting uncharted academic territory. However, with TRIO, the sense of community and mentorship fostered an environment where I was able to grow both as an individual and as a first-generation college student. TRIO allowed me to forge connections with both peers and faculty members that were invaluable. From the moment I entered college, TRIO became a guiding force, offering personalized assistance and resources that have significantly contributed to my success. Having access to experienced advisors who understand the challenges faced by first-generation college students and offer financial assistance has been a game changer. The TRIO program has been an integral part of my academic success. It not only has opened doors to many educational opportunities but has also empowered me with the tools and support needed to allow me to thrive as a first-generation college student.

***Northeastern Junior College SSS
CO District 4***



ELZBIETA (ELIZABETH) ZALEWSKI

As a first-generation, non-traditional college student, Elizabeth took advantage of TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) at Pikes Peak Community College. To get to this point, Elizabeth overcame significant challenges. Learning academic content in a second language required her to plan much more time to do assignments. However, in her words, "TRIO SSS has helped me in so many ways. My advisor, Mike Couillard, encouraged me when I was frustrated by saying: 'Come and vent on me!' He helped me navigate the college system, apply for scholarships, and connected me with CSU Pueblo TRIO SSS and financial aid offices." Elizabeth transferred to Colorado State University Pueblo in Fall 2018 to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) where she continued participating in TRIO SSS.

***Pikes Peak Community College SSS
Colorado State University Pueblo SSS
CO District 5***

TRIO Success Stories



JENNIFER MARTINEZ-GOMEZ

Jennifer is a first-generation student who received her Associate's of Arts in Psychology and a language achievement certificate in Spanish from Community College of Aurora (CCA). She was part of the Student Support Services English as a Second Language (SSS-ESL) program. Jennifer worked as a student ambassador and was elected President of the LatinX Student Alliance, the Senator of Inclusive Excellence in Student Government, and the Phi Theta Kappa National Honors Society membership coordinator. She completed leadership and inclusive excellence programs, and attended retreats which helped inspire her and the student life office to create the first CCA leadership conference on campus. After graduating from CCA, Jennifer transferred to the University of Colorado Denver with a full scholarship in hopes of earning her Bachelors of Science in Psychology with a minor in Public Health in the Pre-medicine route.

**Community College of Aurora SSS-ESL
CO District 6**

33 METZY MORALES

I am a first-generation student who comes from a low-income family and paying for college and even thinking about going to college was a challenge because I had no guidance about how to get there. Upward Bound has helped me determine the necessary steps to get to college. By joining UB, I knew that I wasn't only going to achieve my goals, but also the dreams of parents to get a better future. UB has helped me gain confidence in my abilities of going to college and succeeding as an inspiring Latina in my community. With TRIO's support and guidance, I have gained a better understanding of what I want in my future and of the things that I know I am capable of accomplishing. Words can't explain how grateful I am to have joined Upward Bound."

**Front Range Community College UB
Westminster Campus
CO District 7**



TRIO Success Stories



KADY BARTHELEMY

When I started college, I had no idea that I was a first-generation college student until I applied for McNair by meeting the other criteria and the director told me “Did you know that you are first-gen?” After that moment and learning what first generation meant, my experiences and challenges finally made sense and that I was not alone or weak. Now, I have completed two bachelor’s degrees and am in the final stretch of my PhD program in Counseling Psychology with a doctoral minor in Applied Statistics and Research Methods. Additionally, I get to give back to the program that changed my life by serving as a graduate assistant in the McNair Scholars Program that I completed. I also work as a therapist at Children’s Hospital Colorado.

***University of Northern Colorado McNair
CO District 8***



VICTORIA SILVA

Victoria is currently participating in Colorado State University’s SSS STEM program after attending Aims Community College where they also participated in SSS STEM. Victoria is pursuing a medical career, and their goal is to highlight equitable experiences for underserved communities. Victoria has been actively advocating for underserved communities through research and legislation approval in Colorado. In Spring of 2023, Victoria won first place in the Multicultural Undergraduate Research Art and Leadership Symposium at CSU. Through their research and testifying in Colorado Legislation, Victoria helped secure a new state law on water quality in mobile home parks. Victoria has left a mark in our TRIO community, our CSU community, and our Colorado community. You can read more about Victoria’s impact [here](#).

***Aims Community College SSS STEM
CO District 8***

COE

COUNCIL *for* OPPORTUNITY *in* EDUCATION

TRIO

