

### **What does TRIO stand for?**

It is not an acronym; it refers to a number (originally three, now eight) of U.S federal programs to increase access to higher education for economically disadvantaged students.

The following is the history of the TRIO programs. The first reauthorization of The Higher Education Act in 1968 prompted the TRIO label that continues to be today. TRIO referred to the three programs: Upward Bound, Talent Search, and Student Support Service, which existed within this reauthorization of The Higher Education Act, and was designed to assist eligible students to begin and complete a post-secondary education.

The Education Opportunity Act of 1964, the original War on Poverty Statute, created Upward Bound. Upward Bound helps eligible people and veterans prepare for a higher education. Talent Search was created by the original Higher Education Act of 1965. Talent Search programs serve young people in grades six through twelve to better understand their educational opportunities and options. When the 1968 reauthorization of Higher Education Act created Student Support Services and transferred Upward Bound out of the office of Economic Opportunity into the Higher Education Act, the TRIO label was born. Student Support Services helps eligible students to stay in college until they earn their baccalaureate degree. At Southeastern Illinois College, TRIO is used as the name for the Student Support Services Program.

TRIO is really eight programs under one umbrella. The second reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1972, created the Education Opportunity Centers. The Education Opportunity Centers primarily serve displaced or under-employed workers by helping them to choose a college and a suitable financial aid program. Most recently, the fifth reauthorization of the TRIO Program in 1986, created the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. McNair Programs a redesigned to encourage eligible students to consider careers in college teaching as well as prepare for doctoral study.

TRIO is our nation's commitment to the dream of education for all Americans regardless of race, ethnic background, or economic circumstances.

### **What does EOC stand for?**

The Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) Program provides opportunities for Projects that include: academic advice, personal counseling, and career workshops; information on postsecondary education opportunities and student financial assistance; help in

completing applications for college admissions, testing, and financial aid; coordination with nearby postsecondary institutions; media activities designed to involve and acquaint the community with higher education opportunities; tutoring; mentoring; education or counseling services designed to improve the financial and economic literacy of students; and programs and activities previously mentioned that are specially designed for students who are limited English proficient, students from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education, students with disabilities, students who are homeless children and youths, students who are in foster care or are aging out of foster care system or other disconnected students.