Who We Are

Student Support Services-TRiO (SSS) is a highly specialized program designated to increase the graduation rates of our UNMs most deserving and talented students. Our motivated college students are first-generation to college and from moderate to low-income families or may have documented disability.

Mission

The mission is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of program participants at the University of New Mexico Main Campus. The SSS program draws upon a holistic framework where committed participants receive individualized support by addressing their educational and personal needs. Support is offered through academic and career advising, tutoring, mentoring, personal, financial and graduate school guidance, workshops and social/cultural events.

Vision

A transformative program which inspires and empowers students to overcome, social, cultural, economic and academic barriers to higher education.
“At home, school is not pushed so being able to meet with SSS I knew I was not alone. It’s the conversations I get to have with SSS. It’s like talking with my family back home but here, it’s my UNM family. SSS staff show emotion, there is sincerity in the thought and effort put into their advice. It is genuine so I am able to trust the staff. My first semester was tough I was freaking out during my finals. I was trying to reach a minimum 3.9 GPA. Being 16 years old and away from my family back home, I was emotionally supported by Brittany. She calmed me down and assured me everything would be ok.” Alexya, Sociology

“My SSS Peer Coach was Jaylene and then Charles. I met with Jaylene for the tutoring I needed with my math 121 homework. Both Peer Coaches consistently contacted me throughout each semester to make sure I was doing ok and they went over UNM deadlines that I would have not known about as a first-generation college student. I was also fortunate to have met with SSS Advisors, Brittany and Tania during my first year. Brittany encouraged me to apply for a scholarship with the Architecture program; she kept me focused. I was reassured by the SSS staff always checking up on me. I felt they genuinely cared on how I was doing not only in school but personally.” - Alejandro, Architecture

“When I wanted to give up Dawn (SSS staff) gave me the extra push and motivation to continue. I was able to get the academic support and financial guidance that I needed to fulfill the remaining classes I needed to graduate. If it wasn’t for SSS, I would not have been able to come back to UNM to earn my bachelor’s degree in Spanish and apply to the UNM master’s program in the College of Education. I am graduating this fall 2018 with my Master’s Degree!” - Rosemary, Language Literacy Social-Culture Studies.

Goals for 2018-19

A program goal is to serve 160 eligible students.

Target percentages:

- 84% of SSS participants will persist or will have earned their bachelor’s degree.
- 87% of SSS participants will be in good academic standing.
- 51% of SSS participants will graduate within 6-years.

Impact on Students

The SSS program provides holistic services to the student to gradually build a professional collaborative relationship providing positive pathways, guidance and educational support. SSS programming includes academic advisement, mentoring, tutoring, personal and financial guidance, guidance through the graduate school process and offers cultural activities.
SSS offers several student services throughout the academic year for eligible program participants. There has been minimal faculty engagement in the programming below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Skills</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advisement</td>
<td>The SSS program provides academic advisement to assist students as they explore and plan out their academic options to reach their career goals.</td>
<td>Professionalism, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration</td>
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<td>Mentoring</td>
<td>Adapting to university life can be overwhelming for many students. Mentors assist SSS student by guiding them through the nuances of college life and to become acclimated in their new environment.</td>
<td>Professionalism, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutoring</td>
<td>College courses may be challenging for a variety of reasons. SSS provides tutors that assist students in strengthening their own study skills in a variety of subjects.</td>
<td>Professionalism, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural</td>
<td>SSS provides excursions on and off campus to attend museums, cultural events, shows at UNM Popejoy Hall, historic landmarks and the unique terrain of New Mexico.</td>
<td>Professionalism, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration</td>
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<td>Workshops</td>
<td>SSS holds workshops to assist students as they become acclimated to the college environment. Workshops are held on a number of topics including financial aid, financial literacy, undergraduate research programs, graduate school planning, resume, personal statements, etc.</td>
<td>Professionalism, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration</td>
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<td>2nd Annual First-Generation Celebration</td>
<td>Fall 2018 to celebrate the successes of students and faculty who are first-generation-to-college students. Open to the public, presenters ranging from faculty to students shared their transformative success stories to foster a positive campus climate.</td>
<td>Professionalism, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration</td>
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“SSS would benefit other students who are just like me. It helps students to transition from high school to college.”

Fiscal Update, Revenues

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<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>US Department of Education TRIO Programs-Student Support Services-TRIO is a federally funded 5-year grant program, U.S. Department of Education.</td>
<td>$272,493</td>
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Eighty-seven percent of SSS participants come from families where neither parent or guardian has obtained a bachelor’s degree. They are FIRST GENERATION students.

Ninety-two percent of SSS students qualified for the program under the federal TRIO criteria of mid to low-income family backgrounds. They are LOW INCOME students.

Seventy-two percent of SSS students GRADUATE with their bachelor’s degree in six-years or less.

SSS provided $4000 in SCHOLARSHIPS to students, plus they are eligible for additional exclusive TRIO scholarships.

The overall GPA for the SSS students is 3.4.

A minimum of two-thirds of SSS participants must be first-generation and low-income.

Eighty percent of SSS students have a GPA of 3.0+.


Quick Facts

- An SSS initiative was to hold the 2nd Annual First-Generation Celebration, fall 2018.
- UNM SSS is on the 3rd floor of Mesa Vista Hall.
- TRIO Programs are found nationwide.

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