



TRIO - Student Support Services

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

New Freshman Application 2020-2021



Program Description

TRIO Student Support Services is federally funded by the U.S. Department of Education. All services and activities are free of cost to accepted participants. Services are delivered through a combination of seminars, workshops, group activities, and one-on-one advising/coaching sessions.

Eligibility Requirements

The federal government sets the eligibility requirements for TRIO programs. To be eligible, students must:

- (1) Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
- (2) Be accepted for enrollment at CSU, Chico;
- (3) Demonstrate a strong need and desire for academic support; and
- (4) Meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - Be a “first generation” college student (neither parent has a four year degree)
 - Have a documented disability
 - Qualify for “low income” status:
<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/incomelevels.html>

Selection Process

Only complete applications from eligible students will be reviewed. After the initial screening, eligible applicants will be invited to a short phone interview with project staff. In a competitive situation, priority will be given to applicants who demonstrate (1) the greatest need for support and (2) the strongest desire to be an active and engaged TRIO scholar. Space is limited and students are highly encouraged to meet the priority deadline. Applications received after the priority deadline will be reviewed on a first-come-first-served basis.

Application Checklist

- Complete Application, which includes:
 - Sections I-V, signed and dated
 - Program Requirements Agreement form, signed and dated
 - Consent to Release Information form, signed and dated
 - Student Assessment Form, completed by an academic advisor, counselor, administrator, or instructor
 - Personal Statement (see application for instructions)
- Copy of your most current transcript (high school for new freshmen, college for all other students)
- Verification of income documentation (see page 8 for more information)

We love questions!
Give us a call: (530) 898-6831
E-mail us: sss@csuchico.edu

Priority Deadline: May 15 (postmark accepted)
Send COMPLETE Application

To: TRIO Student Support Services
CSU, Chico
400 West First Street
Chico, CA 95929-0710

TRIO ~ Student Support Services Application 2020-21



California State University, Chico
 Chico, California 95929-0710
 (530) 898-6831 Fax (530) 898-4567



Please carefully answer all questions to assist us in determining your eligibility for services.

Section I: Personal Information

Name _____
First Middle Last

Cell Phone _____ (This is the number SSS will use to reach you.)

Wildcat E-mail _____ (Most SSS communications will be sent here.)

Permanent Address _____
Street Apt. # City, State Zip

CSU, Chico Student ID _____ SSN Number _____

Date of Birth _____ Legal Gender: Male Female
mm/dd/yy

Emergency Contact # 1: (Name) _____ Relationship _____

Phone _____ (SSS will only contact this person in case of a true emergency.)

Section II: Program Eligibility

A. Citizenship

Are you a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident of the United States? Citizen Permanent Resident
 (Permanent Residents, give A# _____)

B. Academic Need

Did you take the ACT? Yes No If "yes," what was your highest ACT composite score? _____

Did you take the SAT? Yes No If "yes," what was your highest Reading Score? _____ Math? _____

Have you been officially admitted to CSU, Chico? Yes No

When will you begin your first semester? Fall Spring _____ (year)

Is English your second language? Yes No

How certain are you of your chosen major? very certain moderately certain uncertain

Are you required to take Early Start math? Yes No unsure

Are you required to take GE math with supplemental support? yes no unsure

Are you required to take GE English with supplemental support? yes no unsure

CSU, Chico TRIO ~ Student Support Services

Section II B (cont).

Applicant's Self Assessment of Academic and Personal Needs

Remember: TRIO Student Support Services is a needs-based program!

Academic Need

(Please check all that apply):

I am currently taking Learning Support classes
 I have been out of school for five or more years
 I am interested in graduate school information
 I had low high school grades/GPA
 I am considering dropping out from college
 I have low college grades/GPA
 I am having problems in a current class
 I have failed a course(s) while in college
 I am undecided about my future career
 I am confused about my advising/classes needed

I have limited English proficiency
 I find writing challenging
 I find reading challenging
 I find science challenging
 I find math challenging
 I received a GED
 I am undecided about my major
 Lack of support from family/friends
 Other: _____

Personal Need

(Check all of the following services that may interest and benefit you):

Academic Advising

Working one-on-one with a TRIO staff member
 Assistance with selecting a major
 Career guidance
 Assistance with selection of courses
 Developing a Degree Map (list of all courses needed to graduate)
 Assistance staying track to graduate within 4-6 years

Financial Literacy

Assistance with the FAFSA
 Assistance applying for scholarships
 Information on TRIO Grant Aid
 Understanding college policies on Financial Aid
 Budgeting skills
 Minimizing loan debt

Personal-Social Development

Family conflict
 Time Management
 Cultural enrichment
 Self-concept improvement Parenting/day care
 Exercise and nutrition Problem-solving
 Stress management Motivation
 Self Discipline
 Anger management

Academic Support/Instruction

Study skills workshops
 Presentation skills
 Tutoring in:
 Writing (essays)
 Reading
 Math
 Science
 Other: _____

My signature below indicates my desire for support and guidance from SSS to help me meet these needs.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

C. Family Income

Respond to the following questions and include verification of income with your application (see below for instructions).

What is your Marital Status? Single Married Divorced
 Do you live with your parents? Yes No
 Do you have children? Yes No
 Are you currently active in the U.S. military, or are you a veteran? Yes No
 Are you or your family receiving TANF CalFresh Medi-Cal SSDI SSI
 Are you now, or were you ever, enrolled in either of the following programs:
 Foster Care (current or prior) Section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Verification of Income

Dependent Students (required to submit parents' information on FAFSA)

Choose one method for verification of income. Your application will not be reviewed without verification.

Parent/legal guardian signature (below). No additional documents needed.
 A signed US or Puerto Rico tax return

Please have your parent/legal guardian fill out and sign this portion to verify your income. If this is not possible, choose another verification method from the list above.

I (full name) _____, declare that I am the parent or legal guardian of (applicant) _____.

I did not file a tax return in **2019** because my earned income was: \$ _____.

There are _____ people living in my household (including myself).

I filed a tax return for **2019**. My **taxable income (1040EZ – Line 6; 1040A - Line 27; 1040 - line 43)** was:
 \$ _____. The total number of people (exemptions) living in my household (including myself) is: _____

I confirm that the above information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Parent/legal guardian's signature (if applicable): _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Independent Students (not required to submit parents' information on FAFSA)

Choose one method for verification of independent status. Your application will not be reviewed without verification.

24 years of age or older: Your signature below serves as verification. No additional documents needed.

Copy of FAFSA document confirming your independent status

Documentation of previous/current status as foster youth, emancipated minor, or homeless/unaccompanied youth.

Documentation from the U.S. military or Veteran's Affairs office confirming your military status

I (full name) _____, declare that I am legally an independent student. I further declare that (select option that applies):

I did not file a tax return for **2019** because my earned income was: \$ _____.

There are _____ people living in my household (including myself).

I filed a tax return for **2019**. My **taxable income (1040EZ - Line6; 1040A - Line 27; 1040 - line 43)** was:
 _____. The total number of people (exemptions) living in my household (including myself) is: _____

I confirm that the above information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Independent student's signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

D. First Generation Status

With whom did you most regularly live and receive support from prior to the age of 18?

- Mother and Father
- Father only
- Mother only
- Adoptive Parent or Legal Guardian
- Homeless/unaccompanied youth
- Foster Care
- Other: _____

Did either of your natural or adoptive parents complete a FOUR-YEAR College Degree? Yes No

Please indicate the highest educational grade level your parents(s)/other head of household/guardian completed.

Father: _____ Mother: _____ Other: _____

If there is anything else you would like for us to know about your family situation, please attach an additional statement.

E. Documented Disability

Students who have disabilities, as defined by Section 504/ADA, may be eligible for participation in Student Support Services as a result of the educational needs stemming from those disabilities.

Do you have a documented disability? Yes No

Have you registered with CSU, Chico Disability Support Services? Yes Not yet N/A

Section III: Education Information

High School Graduation: Year _____ Not Applicable

High School _____ City _____ State _____

GED: Year _____ Not applicable

2020 - 2021 Academic Year College Ranking (check one)

- First-time Freshman Junior
- Returning Freshman Senior
- Sophomore Transfer – Number of Credits Transferred _____

Degree Plans (check all that apply) Bachelor’s (BA/BS) Master’s (MA/MS) Doctorate (PhD)

Declared Major at CSU, Chico:

Section IV: Additional Information

Please list any college courses you completed while in high school (include grades earned):

_____	_____	_____	_____
course	grade	course	grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
course	grade	course	grade

Please mark all of the following programs in which you have participated:

Note: EOP and REACH students may not dual enroll with SSS at CSU, Chico

Talent Search at _____ (name of school)
 Upward Bound at _____ (name of school)
 AVID at _____ (name of school)
 EOP (at Chico)
 REACH (at Chico)
 Chico State Success Center

Have you applied for financial aid at CSU, Chico? Yes Not yet

Have you been awarded any of the following?

SEOG Cal Grant A or B
 EOPG Work Study
 GSL Pell Grant
 USL Have not yet received award letter

How did you find out about TRIO - Student Support Services? (check all that apply)

High School Counselor
 EOP Admissions Coordinator
 CSU, Chico Admissions Counselor
 Upward Bound or Talent Search Advisor
 AVID Advisor
 SSS or EOPS Advisor (Community College)
 Friend
 Family Member
 Other: _____

Section V: Applicant's Confirmation of Accuracy of Information

My signature below confirms that the information provided in Sections I – IV is true and accurate to the best of my ability. *If under eighteen years of age, guardian's signature is required.*

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (*minors only*): _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Section VI: Release of Records and Information Agreement

I give permission to the Student Support Services office to request my admission, financial aid, academic, and/or disability records at CSU, Chico and at all other schools and colleges I have attended in order to obtain the information necessary to act upon my application, provide services, and generate reports. I am aware that these materials will be kept in my SSS file and will not be released to anyone without my written permission.

If under eighteen years of age, guardian's signature is required.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Student: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (*minors only*): _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Guardian: _____



CSU, Chico TRIO ~ Student Support Services Program Requirements Agreement



The following activities are required of SSS participants. All are free of cost.

Freshmen Orientation Concentrating on University Success

(FOCUS) August 18 - 21, 2020

FOCUS is a comprehensive college orientation and transition program required of all first time freshmen participating in SSS. FOCUS takes place the week before school starts each fall, giving students a head start by learning what resources are available on campus, meeting with financial aid, academic, and career advisors, and building a sense of community with other program participants... all before classes begin! Room, board, and all activities are included free of cost. You only need to pay to get yourself to Chico!

First Year Experience Seminar

New freshmen are required to attend and actively participate in a yearlong first year experience seminar. Upon completion of this seminar, participants receive academic credit posted on their CSU, Chico transcript.

Continuing Student Seminars

SSS participants continuing past their first year are required to attend and actively participate in an SSS seminar each spring. Upon completion of each seminar, participants receive academic credit posted on their CSU, Chico transcript.

- Sophomores: Career Exploration
- Juniors: Life After College
- Graduating seniors: College Graduate Success

One-on-one Advising and Coaching Sessions with SSS Staff

To ensure academic success and financial security, SSS participants are required to meet regularly with their assigned peer coach and/or another staff member throughout the first four years of their degree program.

Student Success Workshops

SSS participants are required to attend student success workshops throughout the first four years of their degree program. Topics include study skills, time management, personal finances, and more.

Academic, Career, and Financial Plans

With the assistance of SSS staff, participants will create and update tailor-made academic, career, and financial plans once per year until graduation.

Academic Action Plans

Participants who struggle academically (earning below a 2.0 cumulative GPA) are required to create an Academic Action Plan with the Student Development Coordinator, attend a "Fresh Start" workshop, and/or participate in tutoring sessions.

My signature below indicates my strong desire to be an active and engaged participant in TRIO Student Support Services, and my willingness to participate in all of the above program activities if selected. *If under age 18, guardian's signature is required.*

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Student: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (*minors only*): _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Guardian: _____



CSU, Chico TRIO ~ Student Support Services Consent to Release Information



To be completed by all applicants:

I understand that Student Support Services needs access to my financial, personal and academic information in order to provide the best possible support for me at California State University, Chico. Therefore, I agree to release such information to the Student Support Services staff members as long as I am considered an active Student Support Services participant or a student at California State University, Chico. I further understand that all released material will remain confidential. Academic information and disability verification, however, will be shared with faculty, University departments, the Coordinator for Services to Students with Disabilities, and appropriate representatives of the U.S. Department of Education only as necessary.

I also agree to allow my name and/or picture to be printed in any SSS newsletter, publication or display in recognition of academic success, leadership, or graduation. yes no

By my signature I certify that I have read and understood this Consent to Release and that I am capable of giving such consent and do so voluntarily. *If under age 18, guardian's signature is required.*

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Printed name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (minors only): _____ **Date:** _____

Printed name: _____

To be completed by students with disabilities:

I agree to allow my Student Support Services counselor to discuss issues related to my academic progress for the purpose of coordinating academic and personal support services as long as I am an active Student Support Services participant.

By my signature I certify that I am eighteen years old or older, that I have read and understood this Consent to Release and that I am capable of giving such consent and do so voluntarily.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

If under age 18, legal guardian's signature is required.

Parent/Guardian Signature (minors only): _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Guardian: _____



CSU, Chico TRIO ~ Student Support Services

Personal Statement



Instructions:

In order to successfully achieve their goals and dreams, TRIO scholars must feel inspired to succeed, demonstrate perseverance when challenges arise, strive for excellence, and have a strong sense of purpose. Your personal statement will be comprised of four short-answer "essays" of 300 words, and must be typewritten. This is an opportunity to personalize your application.

1. Inspiration

Describe the role your family, friends, teachers, and home community play in your life. What (or who) serves as your greatest source of inspiration to pursue a college degree?

2. Perseverance

Tell us about a challenge you encountered in the past three years and the strategies you employed to overcome that challenge. How do you think this experience will help you succeed as an independent college student?

3. Purpose

Explain what impact you hope your college degree will have on your future.

4. Growth

Please share with us a few areas you would like to focus on for personal and intellectual growth while in college, and how you think a college support program like TRIO Student Support Services will help you achieve these goals.



CSU, Chico TRiO ~ Student Support Services Supplemental Documentation



Make sure your application is complete!

We receive many more applications each year than space available in our program. Therefore, we are unable to process incomplete files.

Don't forget to include the following documents with your application:

✓ **Signatures**

There are six student applicant signatures required in this application (seven for students with disabilities). Your file is not complete without all signatures and dates (blue or black ink). Applicants under the age of 18 must also obtain a parent/guardian signature unless you are an emancipated minor. Emancipated minors should contact the project director for instructions.

Double check! Signatures are required on the following pages: 3, 4, 6, 7, 8

✓ **Applicant Assessment Form**

This form is located on the "applicants" link on our website. You can send the link to your recommender for convenience.

✓ **Verification of income**

In some instances this is only a signature on the application—read instructions carefully on page four.

✓ **Most recent academic transcript**

✓ **Statement of Purpose**

This is the best place for applicants to personalize their application. See page nine for instructions.