TRiO SSS program at CMCC awarded new grant

On July 20, Central Maine Community College’s TRiO Student Support Services program was awarded a grant in the amount of $281,511 per year, for the next five years, totalling over 1.4 million dollars. These funds will be used to assist students to succeed in college, remain in school, and graduate and transfer to four-year colleges upon completion of their programs at CMCC. This year public colleges and community colleges in Maine were awarded over 3.6 million dollars annually for the next five years (over 18 million dollars) Story continues on page 4

Education Department Awards $270 million for 968 Student Support Services Program Projects to Help Students Succeed in Higher Education

July 17, 2015—The U.S. Education Department today announced the award of $270 million to 968 institutions of higher education to provide thousands of students with academic and other support services they need to succeed in college.

The grants are aimed at helping increase the number of low-income college students, first-generation students, and those with disabilities to successfully complete a program of study at the postsecondary level.

Successful projects under the Student Support Services (SSS) Program will provide students with academic tutoring, assistance in course selection, information about financial aid and economic literacy, and support and resources to help students transfer from two-year to four-year colleges or from undergraduate to graduate or professional studies. Some additional services that may be offered under this grant may include the following activities: individualized counseling and career guidance, exposure to cultural events, and mentoring.

SSS is one of seven Federal TRIO Programs, which provide outreach and student services for students from disadvantaged backgrounds—low income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities, foster care youth or homeless children and youth—to help them progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post baccalaureate programs. For more information about the Student Support Services program, visit: [http://www2.ed.gov/programs/triostudsupp/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/triostudsupp/index.html)
**TRiO Student Megan Parsons awarded scholarship!**

TRiO student Megan Parsons has been selected for the Arnold Hill and W. Scott Reid Scholarship, a scholarship of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. This $1,000 scholarship is awarded for up to four years to students who have the goal of obtaining a nursing degree and are excellent students. In order to apply students must submit a letter of recommendation and a brief outline of their goals. Jennifer Gamez, former TRiO transfer counselor, was happy to provide Megan with an excellent recommendation. We are so proud of Megan’s achievements.

**Calendar of Important TRiO Dates**

**First Things First, Time Management Workshop**
Tuesday, September 1, 12:30 - 1:30 or Wednesday, September 2, 12:30-1:30

**TRiO Open House** Thursday, September 3 from noon -3 pm

**It’s About Time, Time Management Workshop**
Tuesday September 8, 12:30 -1:30 or Wednesday, September 9, 12:30 -1:30

**Note taking, There’s a method to the madness**
Tuesday September 15, 12:30-1:30 or Wednesday, September 16, 12:30-1:30

Every Tuesday and Wednesday of the semester TRiO will be offering free workshops

December 1, 2015 TRiO Scholarship Application Deadline

**A Note from the TRiO Director**

TRiO works! And this year we will be working from some pretty swank facilities. CMCC graciously remodeled our space this summer. The newly remodeled TRiO Success Center stands ready to assist and serve the needs of our students. As I look around at our new surroundings I am struck by how fresh and new it all is. Truly this is a time for new beginnings, whether you are a new-to-CM student, returning student, or staff member you can look out at your new year and see all of the possibilities. Congratulations for making the choice to attend college and open up so many possibilities for your life. If you get stuck along the way, check in with us in TRiO to see what we can do to help.

Terry Charlton, TRiO Student Support Services Director

The CMCC Honors Lists again showcase the talented and hard working students of TRiO Student Support Services. We are proud to list the following students for Spring 2015 TRiO Honor’s list:

**President’s Honors:** Sulekha Abdulle, Kassi Bussiere, Cristie Caron-Therrien, Wallace Farnum, Linda Frost, Jennie Ingall, Travis Messineo, Kimberly Ross, Amy Saucier, Jennifer Storer, Dezarae Walker, and Cindy Williams.

**High Honors:** Laura Breton, Melissa Cable, Kathryn Cormier, Ashley Crane, Baylee Hatstat, Jonathan Knight, Kiya McBride, Joaquin Mills, Donna Moreno, Amanda Paquin, Deborah Pride, Donald Pride, Stephanie Ridlon, Shindano Singi, Jayne Stevens, Teresa Tomlinson, and Talia Turner.

**Honors:** Leola Ballweber, Fartun Bare, Paul Brown, Walter DuBeau, Sara Duplisea, Rahma Farah, Ruqaya Farah, Donald Gammon, Sarah Hemingway, Megan Keene, Ann Leighton, Kaitlin Mador, Scott McClelland, Sharon Mikrut, Megan Parsons, Michael Reynolds, Christina Salas, Cody Shoppe, Jeena Shrestha, Jerome Stanisz, Christopher Staples, and Amy Tremblay

Summer 2015: **High Honors:** Kelsie Blanchard, Paul Brown, Candi Holbrook, Donald Pride

**Honors:** Djima Ainan, Kiya McBride
TRiO Student Support Services buzzes with summer activity!

Once again, TRiO provided awesome summer bridge programming for students. Students investigated TRiO SSS and prepared for success in their fall classes through several free math and English offerings, a science refresher, nursing boot camp, pre-nursing and extended college orientation activities. Many offerings were traditional summer bridge programming. These offerings helped bridge the gap between secondary and post-secondary education, whether that gap was just a few months or many years. Other programs focused on helping new and current students identify areas to improve. Activities were intended to enhance student performance with an eye toward increasing student placement in classes, better acquainting students with college resources, and giving students “insider” information on how to best achieve at CMCC. These free classes proved popular with over 175 students participating in the various offerings. New TRiO workshops this year were the Nursing Boot Camp for new nursing students; and Pulse, a fact-filled presentation by nursing and admissions staff about gaining admission to CM nursing program.

TRiO Student Support Services Scholarship Announcement

TRiO SSS will be selecting students for TRiO scholarships for second semester awards. In order to qualify students must meet eligibility requirements and turn in an application on time. This year's deadline will be Tuesday, December 1, 2015. Applications will be available in the TRiO department starting in October. Details will be posted in TRiO and on the CMCC TRiO groups web page. To get details about the scholarship and other goings on in TRiO, please join the TRiO group page on CM Connect.

Scholarship eligibility: Student must be eligible for a federal PELL grant, be in the first two years of college, have met satisfactory academic progress (SAP), be an active participant in TRiO, completed financial literacy training or a financial literacy task as defined by the Director of TRiO, and write a brief 250 word essay.
years (over 18 million dollars) for TRiO Student Support Service programs.

The check to CMCC’s TRiO program is part of recent grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Education totalling $270 million for 968 higher education institutions across the country. The federally funded programs provide services to thousands of eligible college students to help assure they complete a credential, graduate and transfer to four year institutions. Terry Charlton, CMCC’s TRiO director, said the CMCC’s program serves 175 students annually, having served those who are first-generation students, low-income college students or those with disabilities for nearly 20 years.

"Many of our students are unprepared or underprepared. They are nervous when they first come to college, and not sure they really belong here. We have a very diverse group of students with many differing needs. CMCC TRiO assesses each student’s needs and then tailors an individualized program to help reach their goals. We help students become successful college students. We offer tutoring and coaching in both academic and non-academic skills. We assist students with areas like better time management, money management, help with financial aid and scholarships, accessing college resources fully, self-advocacy, college advising and assistance with transferring to baccalaureate programs, and access to cultural enrichment opportunities. We not only assure students they belong here; we help them to thrive here."

Students must apply and be accepted for TRiO programs based on federal grant criteria. Once selected, students can participate in all program services for free. TRiO staff works with students from the first day they are accepted into the program, through graduation and transfer to a four-year university.

"Every student has the right to an equal opportunity to learn and succeed in college. These grants provide critical support to students who can benefit from extra help and encouragement along their college journey, enabling them to reach their personal goals and contribute to the economic vitality of our nation." — Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education

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**Need Tutoring??** TRiO has tutoring for our students in the following subjects: Math, Biology, Computer studies, Psychology, English grammar support, and more. Stop in and let us know what you are looking for. Don’t delay!