

TRIO TRIBUNE

For and By TRIO/SSS Students

www.cccti.edu/TRIO/SSS/SSShome.htm

November 2009
ACA 090 Special Edition

TRIO

Federally-funded TRIO comprises various programs, which, since 1965, have promoted opportunity in education. TRIO/SSS has served over 1000 participants at CCC&TI since its inception here in 1993. Its mission is to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and serve to motivate students towards the successful completion of their post-secondary education.

TRIO/ ETS, launched at CCC&TI in 2002, currently serves 625 middle-school and high-school students. Its mission is to get academically talented Caldwell County students enrolled in college.

www.cccti.edu
www.ed.gov

Instructor's note: We hope you find this special edition of the *TRIO Tribune* helpful. It is written by students in the fall 2009 ACA 090-102 class for use in a class project with prospective college students from the CCC&TI Basic Skills department.

Before You Start College...

*Bryan Annas, Adam Bowman, Asia Joyner,
Becca Tester*

1. How to keep money in your pocket



As we all know, going to college can be very expensive. There are tuition payments, books, and mandatory things you may need for a class. So how can you afford college without going completely broke? FINANCIAL AID! Applying for financial aid can cover all of these costs and possibly may even give you money back! In order to apply for financial aid, you must fill out a form, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as the FAFSA. The FAFSA can be completed online (www.fafsa.ed.gov), or you can get help from your advisor before going online. An important thing to remember is that applying for the FAFSA should always be FREE! So if a website is asking for money, click off as quickly as possible. Apply for financial aid by completing the FAFSA even if you think you don't qualify. The Financial Aid office is in the Forlines (F) building on the first floor. Also, ask about FAFSA Day on

Saturday, February 13, for help completing the FAFSA form. You must register for the event.

2. Know the Campus

It is also extremely important to know the campus. Find out where all of the buildings are so you are not rushing around last minute. You can take tours of the campus and learn key information to help you become successful at New Student Orientation. You also need to know where your classes are located. If you go before school starts and find your classrooms, you will not be late for class on the first day.

3. Don't Drive?



Getting transportation set up before school starts is very important. If you do not drive, there are several options you can choose from in order to get to school. Do not be afraid to ask people for rides. This includes your family, friends, and classmates. You can even post a flyer on a bulletin board saying that you need a ride. Write down your schedule and someone may respond. If all else fails, you can get in touch with the Caldwell County Area Transit System (CCATS). CCATS is an option as transportation back and forth to school. You can call the following number (828) 757-4888 to set up an appointment so your transportation needs to the school can be fulfilled.

4. Registration and Your Advisor

You will need to call and make an appointment with an advisor. When you meet with the advisor, she will help you figure out what classes you will need to take and also help with scheduling them. She can answer any questions you might have about college. After you have met with your advisor, you will need to register for your classes. If it is

your first semester, you can attend New Student Orientation and Registration, or your advisor will register you. After your first semester, you will register online through WebAdvisor at the college website, www.cccti.edu. Then follow the directions it gives you for registering. There is more information on registration below.

5. Get Your Books

Before you start school, it is important to get your books. You may not need your books the first couple days of class, but if you get them beforehand, you will be set to go. You can purchase your books ahead of time and just go pick them up. Check the Bookstore page of the CCC&TI website. The bookstore gets busy the week before school starts, so you may have to wait in a long line. Be sure to take your class schedule with you, and the bookstore staff will help you find the books required for your classes.

6. Have a Positive Attitude

Have you ever heard the age old saying, "Attitude is a little thing that makes a BIG difference"? It's true - no matter what you're doing in life - especially college! When you go to college for the first time, have a positive attitude. Keep in mind that all things are possible if you try.

7. Know the Student Handbook

The school handbook is the golden key to your success at college. It is essential for you to be aware of rules, regulations, policies, and important numbers of staff that you might need to contact. All of that information and more can be found in your school handbook. Don't use the excuse "I didn't know," because you can know; it's all right there in the pages of the handbook!



Applying to College

*Wendy Coffey, Chasity Denny, Christy Goble,
Jennifer Jackson*

You may pick up an application for CCC&TI from the Admissions Department in Student Services on the first floor of the Forlines (F) Building.

Here is important information you will need to have when returning your application to the Admissions Department:

- Official copies of GED, high school, college transcripts, and placement test scores.
- Complete placement tests prior to November 17 in order to early register November 18 – 24. The Testing Center is located on the first floor of the Forlines (F) building.
- If your name has been changed, you will need documentation of name change.
- If you are not a United States citizen, please call or see Elaine Setzer-Maxwell at 726-2721.

Records and Admissions:

- It is your responsibility to confirm your file is complete for admissions.
- When your application is complete, the Records and Administration Department will assign you an advisor. There is more information on your advisor below.

New Student Orientation dates and times:

- Call to make an appointment.

- November 17, 2009 at 9:00 am, 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm. Each session will last from 2 to 3 hours and includes a 45-minute presentation about services on campus, advising, registration, a student panel, and a group tour.

Registration

You will need to meet with your advisor that Student Services has assigned you as soon as possible.

Registration information and dates:

- You must make an appointment with your advisor.
- The advisor will help you map out your courses for each semester.
- Early registration for new students is November 18 through 24, with tuition and fees due by November 24.
- Final registration date is January 5: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm or 5:00pm to 7:00 pm in E Building (Gym).
- Tuition and fees must be paid in the Business Office when registering (A Building first floor).
- You need to get a parking tag (included in tuition and fees).

Business Office hours:

- M-Thur. 8:30 am- 6:00 pm and Fri. 8:30 am- 5:00 pm.
- January 5, 2010, 8:30 am - 7:00 pm. For students that register on January 5, tuition and fees must be paid by 7:00 pm that day.



Types of Financial Aid

*Kayla Gragg, Rita Jeffers, Ashley Mitchell,
Stephanie Watts*

The first step for Financial Aid is filling out the FAFSA. FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid. There is a paper worksheet that is helpful if you fill it out before you do the rest online at www.cfnc.org or directly at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The FAFSA is good for one academic year, fall and spring semesters. You have to fill out the FAFSA to be eligible for any financial aid. Regardless if you receive any aid, you will receive some sort of notification in the mail.

If you were laid off from your job, you could be eligible for TAA, which stands for Trade Adjustment Assistance. With TAA, you will receive \$30 for supplies and be able to pay for your books and tuition. You are guaranteed tuition for two years. WIA, which stands for the Workforce Investment Act Program, is another opportunity for you if you are laid off from your job or have been out of work. This pays for tuition and books. Also, it pays for gas to and from school and childcare. For more information about TAA and WIA, you can go to the JobLink Career Center, and someone will be able to answer any questions that you have, or they can tell you the person that you need to talk to.

Scholarships and loans are another type of financial aid. Scholarships are sums of money awarded to students. The students do not have to pay back scholarships. However, loans are sums of money borrowed that do have to be paid back with interest starting six months after completing school. There are many different scholarships available. In TRIO there are three scholarships available just for TRIO students. They are the TRIO Vickie T. Allred Book Scholarship, the TRIO Direct Scholarship, and the TRIO Alumni Scholarship. There are many other scholarships available besides these. For more information about scholarships, go to the

financial aid office, to the Financial Aid page through the CCC&TI website, www.cccti.edu, or www.cfnc.org. The only student loans at CCC&TI are Stafford loans. There are a few steps for getting loans, and you can see the people in the financial aid office for help with this.

If you have any further questions about financial aid, you can go to the Financial Aid Office on the bottom floor of the Forlines building (F building) on the Caldwell campus. The JobLink Career Center is also located on the first floor of F building. They will be able to assist you with any questions that you have.

How Do I Get an Advisor?

Emily Banner, Tyler Gragg, Dena Parton

After you submit your application, you should receive a letter in the mail welcoming you to your program and informing you of whom your advisor is. If you plan to pursue your AA (Associate in Arts) or AS (Associate in Science) to transfer to a university, then your advisor will be located in the Academic Advising Center, on the first floor of the Forlines (F) building.

The mission of the Academic Advising Center is to provide the best possible advisement for students to achieve their academic and personal goals. Career and Counseling Services is also located in the same area, where you can go to get support in matters that relate to career choices and picking your major. If you choose a technical program, which is the most common for adults returning to school, you will be assigned an advisor who is an instructor in your chosen program.

Your advisor is the person that will help you plan your course for completing your major. They will answer any question you may have about your program of study, and if by chance they are not able to answer your question, they will get you in contact with someone that can. They can also keep you

informed about specific deadlines that may be important to you. The advisor helps guide you through your major's requirements. However, it is ultimately up to you to make sure you are getting the classes you will need, and if you are a transfer student, you will need to make sure that the classes that you take transfer to the four-year university of your choice.

TRIO, as far as advisement goes, helps with the removal of flags for TRIO students so that you can register online. TRIO also is a great resource to help with choosing classes and finding out if they transfer to the four-year university of your choice. As students in Basic Skills, you already have the opportunity for advisement. You have a transition advisor, Buffy Flowers. She is an excellent resource, and if you are planning to attend CCC&TI or any other college, you really should consider speaking with her. Her contact information as well as other important contact information is below.

Buffy Flowers
bflowers@cccti.edu
 (828)759-4647

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute
 (828) 726-2200
www.cccti.edu

TRIO
 Located in center of B-Annex
 Chasity Fleming, TRIO/SSS Administrative Assistant
 (828)726-2726

Career & Counseling Services
 (828) 726-2746

Academic Advising Center
 (828) 726-2746



College Success Strategies

Eva Barber, Zach Rich, Junior Watson, Kia Worley

Success strategies are an important part of all life's journeys, especially your journey through college. Here are some helpful strategies to guide you through college:

- **Keep a planner:** Keeping a planner is the best way to keep track of your time and to prevent things from getting out of hand. Time management is a very important skill to possess in order to keep due dates from slipping by.
- **Go to class:** Going to class is the factor that most significantly affects the success of community college students.
- **Know your college:** Be sure to find out about any resources that could assist you in your journey to success. One helpful resource at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute is the Writing Center, a place dedicated to helping students with the writing process. Also be sure to check out the Academic Support Center, Learning Resource Center and computer labs.
- **Read each class syllabus:** It is important to be aware of the rules for each of your classes and how you will be graded. Some students who neglect the syllabus regret it later because they did not know the penalty for late work.
- **Avoid procrastination:** Starting an assignment the night before it is due, doing homework in class, and turning in assignments late will surely lead to stress and panic down the road.
- **Review:** The most effective way to remember information is to review ten to twenty minutes after each class. Make sure you schedule a time to study for each class every day.
- **Have a positive attitude:** You can do it. Why think otherwise? Instead of

getting discouraged, choose to learn from your mistakes and do better next time.

- Be persistent: Never give up. Keep up the hard work and you will certainly see rewards.

Try your best to incorporate these strategies into your work ethic so you can achieve the grades you deserve!

What is TRIO?

CCC&TI has two TRIO programs on campus. TRIO programs are designed to provide academic and personal support for first-generation college students while they are in school. TRIO/SSS works with college students to help them be successful and meet their goal of graduation or transferring to a four-year university. TRIO/ETS is a program of support and preparation for middle-school and high-school students to prepare them for college enrollment upon completion of high school. ACA 090, Study Skills, is a required class for students in the TRIO/SSS program.

For more information on joining TRIO, please stop by the TRIO Center in B-Annex on the Caldwell campus of CCC&TI, email a TRIO staff member or TRIO student.



Fall 2009 ACA 090-102 class

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