



WVU Tech

TRIO Student Support Services

2020 Annual Report

#TRIOWorks



# Who We Are

The WVU Tech TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) Program has been consistently funded by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) since 1971, making it one of the oldest programs in the country.

The WVU Tech TRIO SSS Program works with 215 WVU Tech students that would be the first in their family to earn a four-year college degree, Pell Grant eligible and/or registered with the WVU Office of Accessibility Services.

## Program Services

- Academic, Career, Financial Aid and Graduate School Advising
- Computer Lab with **FREE** printing
- Cultural Enrichment Activities
- Graduate School Tours
- Leadership Building Opportunities
- Professional Math Tutoring
- Peer and 24/7 Online Tutoring
- Scholarship Opportunities
- Student Sessions covering topics such as study skills, time management, life skills, etc.



## Staff

Scott Robertson, Assistant Dean of Students and Program Director

Jeanette Bane, Assistant Director

Josh Lomas, College Success Coach

Phil Redden, Professional Math Tutor

Janie Smith, Administrative Associate

Office Location: Benedum Center

Phone: 304-929-1293

E-mail: [Tech-SSS@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:Tech-SSS@mail.wvu.edu)



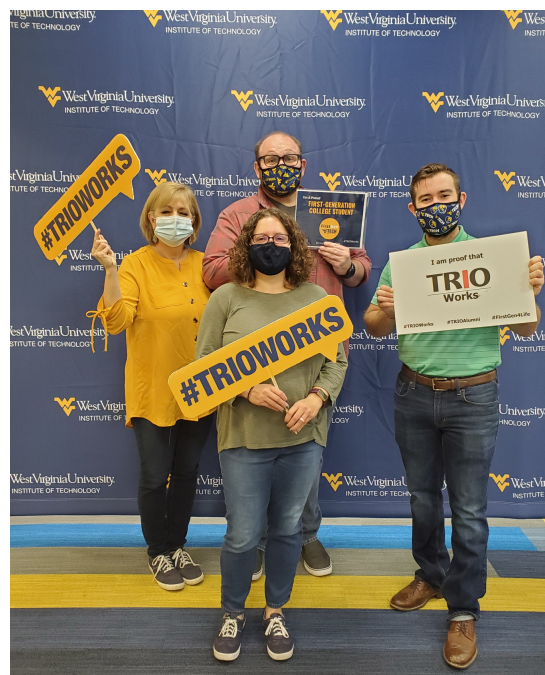
## Program Data

During the 2019-2020 academic year, the WVU Tech TRIO SSS awarded \$26,600 in scholarships to eligible students. Of those students that received scholarship funds from TRIO SSS, **100%** were retained from the Spring 2020 semester to the Fall 2020 semester.

## First-Generation Week

Though COVID-19 has shifted every aspect of life on the WVU Tech campus, for the Fourth Annual WVU Tech First-Generation Week, the TRIO SSS and TRIO Upward Bound (UB) Programs hosted socially-distanced activities such as "What's the Scoop?" which focused on Dean of Students Emily Sands sharing her experience as a First-Generation Generation Student.

First-Generation WVU Tech Faculty, Students, and Staff are also profiled on our social media accounts and the program's website ([triosss.wvutech.edu](http://triosss.wvutech.edu)).



## Spring 2021 Tutoring

We will offer a variety of tutoring offerings for program participants during the Spring 2021 semester. Program participants will sign up for one-on-one Professional Math Tutoring with Phil Redden that will be conducted virtually. Also, program participants will be able to meet with Peer Tutors in person or virtually. Finally, the program provides participants with access to PhotoStudy for 24 hours a day, seven days a week tutoring.

If you have questions about the WVU Tech TRIO SSS Tutoring Program, please contact Jeanette Bane at [jeanette.bane@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:jeanette.bane@mail.wvu.edu) or 304-929-1295.

## Award Winners

Samantha Collins, History and Government Major, received the 2019-2020 Freshman of the Year Award.

Katie Stanley received the Presidential Leadership Award from the Leonard C. Nelson College of Engineering and Sciences for her outstanding academic career and campus involvement.

### Building a Foundation for Leadership

Before moving to online learning during the Spring 2020 semester, the WVU Tech TRIO SSS Program selected twelve program participants to attend the WV TRIO Student Leadership Conference in Sutton, WV, to develop their communication, team building and leadership skills. Participants were able to network with fellow TRIO SSS participants from throughout West Virginia, Virginia, and Maryland.



#### Attendees

Kelsea Adkins  
Raza Ahmed  
Peter Blessent  
Samantha Collins  
Maverick Hudson  
Shawneha Fennimore  
William Miller  
Julian Nicholas  
Alex Sparks  
Zinna Tran  
Stephanie Warvel

### Participant Feedback

At the end of the 2019 – 2020 Academic Year, we asked participants to provide feedback on services. In their own words, they share the impact that the TRIO SSS program had on them.

"While I felt my connection to the TRIO SSS program had strengthened towards the end of the term (when classes went online), I feel that the atmosphere and community the program possesses was extremely influential in keeping me afloat and motivated to do my best." – MH, Psychology

"Being part of TRIO SSS has helped me with college both academically and financially. It has served as a support group vital to my success and motivation." – TW, Computer Science

"Everyone in TRIO SSS does their best to help their students to succeed." – SC, History and Government

### Alumni Spotlight

Seirra Seay

December 2018 Graduate

Major: Biology

Hometown: Fayette, WV

#### **What is your favorite memory as a participant in the TRIO Student Support Services program at WVU Tech?**

"I was very nervous about going to an etiquette dinner to apply to vet schools. I brought up how I have never been to an etiquette dinner, and I was worried I would break one of the many rules one must follow to my Advisor. It turns out my Advisor happened to be an expert in how to eat at an etiquette dinner and knew all the rules to follow! She was also able to tell me all the rules, send me links and videos, and helped me prepare to go to the etiquette dinner worry-free!"

#### **In what ways did the program help you earn your degree?**

"Besides getting tutoring when I needed it and having an advisor to ask questions and get advice from, TRIO SSS did many things to help me do well in my undergraduate degree. I loved all the TRIO SSS activities to help lower stress, coffee and doughnuts, and midterms and finals goodie bags. All these little things can really make a difference while in college. They help you keep going when courses get tough!"



#### **Since graduating from WVU Tech, did you enter the workforce or continue your education? If so, where?**

"After I got my degree in biology, I applied to veterinary schools. I am currently a second-year vet student at Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine. This year, I have really enjoyed the hands-on labs in small animal and food animal surgery and medicine. They go along with some of my lecture courses. I start my two years of clinical rotations next semester!"

#### **In your opinion, why should faculty and staff refer students to the TRIO SSS program?**

"It is always good to have a program that will help students get through college and do better in their courses. Faculty and staff should refer students to TRIO SSS because they will help in any way they can to improve a student's education!"



wwutechtriosss



wwutechtriosss