



Council for Opportunity in Education Strategic Plan 2023-27

Goal I: Expand the availability and enhance the quality of college access and support services through rigorous advocacy.

Objectives:

1. Increase the number of TRIO programs and, therefore, participants served by the federal TRIO programs while maintaining program quality and preserving program integrity.
2. Assure the views of TRIO educators are recognized in legislation and regulations directly impacting the TRIO programs, including measures to reauthorize the Higher Education Act, and negotiated rulemaking with the U.S. Department of Education.
3. Increase the Department of Education's responsiveness to the TRIO community's concerns.
4. Increase the effectiveness of stakeholders working with low-income, first-generation participants and participants with disabilities in advocating on institutional, state, and national levels.
5. Continue developing and facilitating efforts to assist state associations in securing financial and non-financial resources from state and local sources to support work with low-income, first-generation participants and participants with disabilities.

Goal II: Provide high-quality services and opportunities to member institutions and agencies, particularly to educators working in college access and success programs.

Objectives:

1. Assure targeted outreach to new professionals to engage in professional development services.
2. Offer presentations and workshops to at least 40 regional and state meetings.
3. By September 2024, provide at least 50 professional development opportunities for TRIO educators and other college access and success professionals.
4. Develop and sustain at least two partnerships annually that provide resources to improve practice and/or build knowledge.
5. Develop and disseminate at least two publications or other vehicles to improve practice in college access and success annually.
6. Provide on-site technical assistance to at least ten member institutions or agencies by September 2024 and increase this by at least 10 percent annually.
7. Help the TRIO community offer and advance STEAM and other curricular learning opportunities, including effective pedagogy and participant support.
8. Expand professional development to include student mental health needs, learning loss, and career development for staff.
9. Conduct at least one Policy Seminar and one Conference annually.



Goal III: Position COE as a thought leader in the areas of college access, retention, and success for low-income and first-generation students.

Objectives:

1. Publish a biennial report on Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States (“Indicators Report”.)
2. Provide easily accessible vehicles to disseminate information in the Indicators Report to reach wider audiences.
3. Assist the TRIO community in self-identifying and communicating as college access, retention, and success advocates and experts.
4. Ensure that at least 500 campuses and/or program sites celebrate first-generation students in November 2024, that these celebrations amplify the position of TRIO programs and students on campus, and that the number grows by at least 5 percent each year.
5. Provide an Executive Leadership Institute for rising state leaders annually.
6. Promote, support, and increase participation in current communities of practice.
7. Enable members of the college access and success community to better communicate their accomplishments on institutional, school, community, state, and national levels through empower®, the COE data system.

Goal IV: Strengthen COE’s sustainability for future growth.

Objectives:

1. Achieve Fair Share goals annually as outlined in the budget.
2. Achieve foundation and corporate revenue goals as outlined in the budget.
3. Assess Board development needs and goals annually.
4. Add new members to the COE Legacy Society annually.
5. Maintain President’s Advisory Council to bring non-higher educational expertise and experience to advise COE senior leadership on financial and development matters.
6. Identify outside investors in accordance with the 2023 business plan to enable the necessary expansion of empower®.

Goal V: Increase the number of TRIO alumni that engage with TRIO programs and COE to bring additional visibility and resources and to advocate for TRIO students and programs.

Objectives:

1. Increase the number of alumni registered in the national database to 6,000 by September 2024 and 8,000 by 2027.
2. Increase the total number of social media subscriptions across all platforms to 20,000 by September 2024 and to 30,000 by September 2027.
3. Develop a TRIO alumni toolkit by September 2024 to include sections with resources on “Utilizing Alumni as Mentors,” “Using Alumni in Career Activities,” “Involving Alumni in Graduation Ceremonies and Other Celebrations,” and “Involving Alumni in Advocacy.”
4. Develop a virtual professional development series for alumni by May 2027.
5. Assure that at least 15 programs/institutions have a formal alumni chapter or formal programs to incorporate alumni by May 2024 and at least 60 by May 2027.
6. Assure that at least five state chapters have at least one organized event for alumni from across the state by May 2024 and that ten state chapters have such events by May 2027.
7. Increase faculty alumni network participation and offerings.



COUNCIL *for* OPPORTUNITY *in* EDUCATION

Dedicated to furthering the expansion of college opportunities for low-income, first-generation students, and students with disabilities.

GOAL VI: Provide high-quality leadership and career development services to low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities.

Objectives:

1. Assure that at least 100 students receive appropriate career development support, that 30 are placed in internship opportunities by May 2025, and that these numbers increase by at least 10 percent annually.
2. Continue to enhance and support study abroad programming through the Keith Sherin Global Leaders program.
3. Assure that at least 150 students gain national leadership opportunities through COE's National Student Leadership Congress and other student leadership opportunities.