



TRIO Future Leaders Summit 2025

April 13-17 | Washington, D.C. | #TRIOFutureLeaders2025
Apply before **Friday, December 13, 2024**



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS



COUNCIL *for* OPPORTUNITY *in* EDUCATION

www.coenet.org

The [Council for Opportunity in Education](#) is hosting its inaugural TRIO Future Leaders Summit in Washington, D.C., from **April 13-17, 2025**. The summit will convene 30 TRIO college students from various parts of the U.S. and U.S. Territories to enhance their leadership skills and allow them to explore careers in public policy. Participants will:

- **CONNECT:** Connect with TRIO alumni, policy experts, and federal legislators to explore career opportunities in public policy.
- **DISCOVER:** Enhance opportunities for success through career skill development, graduate school exploration, and internship preparation workshops.
- **STRATEGIZE:** Collaborating with peers, students will review and evaluate political case studies and present their findings as part of their policy analysis and research.
- **ADVOCATE:** Learn about local, state, and national policy issues and how to support innovative change through research, communication, and partnership building.

Benefits of Attending: Students participating in the 2025 TRIO Future Leaders Summit will gain the following skill sets:

- **Strategic Thinking:** An objective perspective to make informed decisions to enhance goals and outcomes
- **Team Building:** An understanding of the dynamics of effective and efficient teams, including collaboration, communication, shared purpose, and conflict resolution
- **Adaptability:** Tools and strategies for managing change in dynamic environments
- **Innovation:** Creative thinking and innovation for problem-solving and improvement
- **Networking:** Connections and collaboration to foster knowledge-sharing and partnership-building opportunities
- **Personal Growth:** Self-awareness and character development help leaders become more effective, empathetic, and adaptable in their respective roles

Applicant Criteria: The selection committee will use an internal scoring rubric to select thirty students. Applicant reviewers will prioritize students with demonstrated leadership experience majoring in political science, public policy, and related fields. (Note that COE encourages students of all majors to apply.)

- Applicants must be undergraduate sophomores, juniors, or seniors actively participating in a TRIO Student Support Services or TRIO Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate program.
- Applicants must demonstrate a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- COE will consider two applicants per program. (So if a school has McNair and SSS, the school could submit four student applicants for consideration.)

Additional Requirements:

1. Respond to each of the following three essay prompts (300-500 words per response):
 - What is your definition of leadership?
 - Please provide a detailed account of a situation in which you assumed a leadership role and what you learned from that experience.
 - The TRIO Future Leaders Summit emphasizes preparing students to pursue leadership roles and professional careers related to advocacy and public policy. Explain why you are interested in advocacy and public policy.
2. Submit a letter of recommendation from a TRIO staff member.
3. Submit a letter of recommendation from a college faculty member.

Apply Online: Apply for the 2025 TRIO Future Leaders Summit [here](#). COE will not consider incomplete applications. Please make sure that you respond to each question and upload the requested documents with your application. The deadline for applications is **Friday, December 13, 2024**.

Tentative Program Agenda: While COE will only share the final agenda with participating students, here's what you can expect (*please note this is subject to change*):

<i>Sunday, April 13, 2025</i>	
Students Arrive Welcome and Introductions	Overview of Case Studies Dinner and Evening Social
<i>Monday, April 14, 2025</i>	
Workshop Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "TRIO's Impact on Educational Policy (Working Collectively to Impact Policies Impacting Low-Income and First-Generation Students)" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Building Connections for Meaningful Work (Recognizing and Building Networking Skills)" • "Pursuing Careers in Public Policy (TRIO Alumni Who Work on Capitol Hill Discuss Strategies)"
Case Study Labs Explore the National Mall and Monuments at Night	
<i>Tuesday, April 15, 2025</i>	
Workshop Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Effective Mindset Strategies for Success (Managing Imposter Syndrome and Addressing the Trailblazer Toll)" • "Internship Opportunities: Unlocking Your Career Potential (COE Career Opportunities Initiative)" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Building Pathways to Your Future (Finding Internship Opportunities)" • "Graduate School Panel Luncheon (Representatives Discuss Preparing, Applying, and Financing Graduate School)"
Graduate School and Career Fair Case Study Labs Preparation for Visiting Senators and Representatives on Capitol Hill TRIO Alumni Networking Dinner	
<i>Wednesday, April 16, 2025</i>	
Visits with Senators and Representatives on Capitol Hill Capitol Building Tour and Gallery Watch	Case Study Presentations Closing Dinner and Recognition
<i>Thursday, April 17, 2025</i>	
Students Depart	

Registration Fee: The cost per student for the 2025 TRIO Future Leaders Summit is \$2,000. When COE notifies students of their acceptance, the student's TRIO director will receive an invoice for the student registration fee. **Registration is an allowable project expense (see OMB Sec. 200.405 allowable costs).** This [document helps students identify funds](#) to support their participation and students can download a [sample donation request letter here](#). Please note that the registration fee covers the following:

- Student ground transportation throughout the event
- All meals once the student arrives in Washington, D.C.
- Student lodging
- Activity fees for cultural activities
- All educational materials

The registration fee does not cover:

- Student transportation to and from Washington, D.C.
- Student meals while traveling to and from Washington, D.C.
- Baggage fees associated with air or train travel

For Additional Information: You can contact COE Director of Student Opportunities **Angela L. Holley** by email at angela.holley@coenet.org or by phone at (202) 347-7430.

