GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

COE

COUNCIL *for* OPPORTUNITY *in* EDUCATION

COMMUNITY MEETING

TRIO under threat—organize, advocate, act now to protect programs.

KIMBERLY JONES
President, Council for Opportunity in Education

coenet.org

May 2025

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

1. This **webinar is a community call and is off-the-record**—please do not record or share without permission.
2. Please **update your Zoom name to include your full name and institution** for transparency and engagement.
3. **COE will circulate a meeting recording** to all registrants after the call concludes.
4. Submit all questions through the **Zoom Q&A box**; the chat will be closed for questions.

THIS FIGHT IS FOR MORE
THAN JUST JUNE 1 UPWARD
BOUND PROGRAMS

WATCH TOMORROW'S
BUDGET HEARING HERE

WE MUST BE NIMBLE AND REACT IN REAL-TIME

1. **Tomorrow's ED Budget Hearing:** ED Secretary Linda McMahon's responses will illuminate the Administration's TRIO approach.
2. **Congressional Outreach Post-Hearing:** Contact your Members of Congress to urge them to protect TRIO programs.
3. **Possible Litigations Against the Trump Administration:** COE plans to sue the Trump Administration if TRIO Upward Bound grant awards are not released by June 1.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT NEXT

- **Wednesday Afternoon COE Advocacy Update:** On Wednesday evening, COE will distribute an advocacy update to the TRIO community and a press release following the budget hearing.
- **Government Relations Community Meeting | Tuesday, May 27, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. ET |** Receive important guidance on advocacy, next steps, and protecting your program's future. Register here.
- **Advocacy Writing Lounge | Tuesday, May 27, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. ET |** TRIO students, professionals, alumni, and supporters will unite to send a powerful, unified message to Congress. Register here.

YOUR CAMPUSES AND
COMMUNITIES ARE THE
BATTLEFIELD

CONTACT YOUR CONGRESSMEMBERS NOW

Sample Letter from a **Current Students**

Sample Letter from **Parents of Current Students**

Sample Letter from **TRIO Alumni**

Sample Letter in **General Support of TRIO**

You may also contact your Members of Congress by calling **(202) 224-3121** for the U.S. congressional switchboard operator.

WCIA 3 NEWS
EIU leaders warn staff of potential funding cuts
Video / Apr 28, 2025 / 07:30 PM CDT
Some faculty members at Eastern Illinois University are worried their programs could be on the chopping block. Staff members received an email from Jay Gatrell, EIU's President, explaining the possible cuts the school may face.
The Boston Globe
Trump's budget threatens Mass. English learner, college transition programs
Ripon College staff member says cuts to TRIO programs will be "tragic"
26 NORTHEAST WISCONSIN
THE CHRISTIAN RECORDER
The Devil is in the Details
thechristianrecorder.com/articles/the-devil-is-in-the-det
OPB
THINK OUT LOUD
Trump proposes cutting national program to help low income and disadvantaged students
WKYT
Trump Administration proposes cuts to TRIO Program
ipr. Iowa Public Radio
A student says she couldn't have gone to college without a federal program President Trump is proposing to cut. A bill is waiting on the governor's desk that would lower the unemployment taxes businesses pay. And a state lawmaker is raising concern with how a state agency tested out gambling surveillance technology.

DOWNLOAD THE NEWLY
UPDATED TRIO MEDIA
RELATIONS TOOLKIT HERE

QUESTIONS?

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