



**Western Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel  
Service Council Committee Report  
2020 – 2021  
(Friday December 18, 2020)**

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Education and Legislation
<b>Committee Chair/Co-Chairs:</b>	Cuauhtemoc “Temo” Solorio
<b>Committee Members (if any):</b>	
<b>Committee Description:</b> Serves as a liaison to the WESTOP Service Council Legislation & Education Committee and Chapter. Researches and reports on any State and National legislation which has an impact on TRIO Programs and/or first generation, low income students. This position also serves as the liaison between the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), WESTOP, and the SoCal Chapter.	

#### Committee Goals & Priorities

- Meet with WESTOP Leg/Ed Chair in order to align goals with Regional Chapter
- Develop plan of action, along with WESTOP Leg/Ed Chair to begin to collect current data program in order to update Fact Book
- Assist with the recruitment of Membership to attend Policy Seminar
- Assist Membership with identifying means of securing funding in order to attend Policy Seminar

#### Committee Updates

- Virtual Policy 2020: TRIO United for A New Era March 22<sup>nd</sup>-March 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Seminar on Relations w/ the U.S. Department of Education: Monday March 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - Policy Seminar: Tuesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday March 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Early bird registration now open until January 31<sup>st</sup>
- TRIO Alumni Leadership Forum
  - Saturday March 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Deadline for registration is March 19<sup>th</sup>
- Link for registration: [https://coenet.org/policy\\_seminar.shtml](https://coenet.org/policy_seminar.shtml)
- Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) submitted a proposal to President-Elect Biden and his transition team for the Education Department and the Office of management and Budget that calls for increased TRIO funding over five years, linking any increases in the Pell



Grant to increases in TRIO funding, expanding TRIO eligibility to serve DACA students, and other recommendations to improve college access.

- Link to details: [https://coenet.org/press\\_releases\\_113020.shtml](https://coenet.org/press_releases_113020.shtml)
- The Department of Education sent a letter to all TRIO programs on Friday December 4<sup>th</sup> updating the continued flexibilities
  - Link to letter: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/10EJgCu-ZmGmeIDwJs-vSpQr15u\\_17POp/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/10EJgCu-ZmGmeIDwJs-vSpQr15u_17POp/view)
- COVID-19: Congress has restarted negotiations of COVID-19 relief bill
  - This week, a bipartisan group of senators introduced a plan with \$908 billion for COVID-19 relief (funded partly by unspent CARES Act funding), including \$82 billion for education, \$4 billion for student loan relief, \$10 billion for child care, and \$10 billion for broadband.
  - The bill text has not been finalized and the education funding allocations for specific programs have not yet been determined.
  - Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV), Susan Collins (R-ME), Mitt Romney (R-UT), Mark Warner (D-VA), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Angus King (I-ME) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH) introduced the framework.

#### Pre-College Programs

- The Department of Education re-published its draft notice for comments on the Talent Search application package that were utilized in the 2015-16 competition. As the Department of Education followed the same procedure in the 2019-20 Student Support Services competition, it is believed that the agency has re-issued this notice in order to eliminate the need to publish a draft for the upcoming 2020-21 competitions.
  - This means:
    - We can expect a short, 30-45 day turnaround between the release of the 2020-21 RFPs and the proposal due dates, and
    - The competitive preference priorities included in the drafts just released will be different.
- Link to Talent Search Draft: [Talent Search draft](#)
- COE expects the application to be due at the end of January
- Only the TOP two Prior Experience scores will be used in this upcoming competition. The lowest score will be discarded. ED will consider increasing the stipend limits for UB and UBMS.
- ED will consider proposals from Talent Search to provide stipends to participants. Stipend increases or requests need prior written approval from their program specialists.
- UB and UBMS APR currently open and will close December 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### College Programs

- The Department of Education re-published its draft notice for comments on the EOC



application package that were utilized in the 2015-16 competition

- Link to EOC draft: [EOC draft](#)
- Same expectations from TRIO TS in regards to turnaround and CPP's
- Due date expected to be approx. End of February
- ED will entertain proposals for SSS programs who would like to waive their match on SSS grant aid for this year.

### Recommendations

- No recommendations at this time

### Action Items

- **UB and UBMS: APR due December 18<sup>th</sup>**
- **College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) and High School Equivalency Program (HEP) applications open and will close on January 22, 2021.**
  - Link to CAMP: <https://t.congressweb.com/l/?CPIUUUQRBDPKEYU>
  - Link to HEP: <https://t.congressweb.com/l/?CPIUUUQRBDZIEGA>
- **Contact Congress to ensure that TRIO's COVID request is included in the final COVID-19 bill Congress passes this year!**
  - Contact your legislators in support of our request and learn how this funding would [help TRIO students at the program, district, and state level.](#)

Respectfully Submitted,

*Quauhtemoc "Temo" Solorio*