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Dear Parent/Guardian & Student:

Welcome to the NC State University TRIO Talent Search Program (TS). No matter where a student may be on their journey to college, we are here to assist. TRIO TS is committed to providing services to enhance students’ success on the road to college. We achieve this through academic enrichment workshops, personal support, college tours, and other opportunities.

You will find important information in the Talent Search Student/Parent Handbook that will help you navigate the school year with our program. We suggest paying special attention to TRIO TS General Rules and Regulations as well as North Carolina Schools grading scales and graduation requirements. Please read and keep this handbook as a reference.

An outstanding academic calendar has been prepared to assist students in attaining the goals of TRIO TS. We look forward to working with you to make this a phenomenal year.

Sincerely,

TRIO TS Staff
TRIO MISSION

The mission of the North Carolina State University TRIO Programs is to provide equal access to quality education while facilitating retention, promotion, graduation, and entry to all levels of higher education from middle grades through doctoral programs for participants.

TALENT SEARCH PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The NC State University TRIO Talent Search Program serves 814 students annually from 4 middle and 3 high schools (Selma Middle, Smithfield Middle, Wendell Middle, Zebulon Middle, East Wake High, Knightdale High, and Smithfield Selma High). The program has been a part of the University since 1991 and has assisted thousands of students with enrolling in college and gaining a college degree.

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Admissions and Financial Aid Info
- Career Planning
- College Tours
- Financial Aid Assistance
- SAT/ACT Preparation
- SAT/ACT Registration
- Cultural Awareness
- Decision Making
- Goal Setting
- Self Esteem Building
- Parent Consultation
- Academic Counseling
- Personal Counseling
- Tutorial Assistance
- Summer Enrichment
- College Survival Skills
- High School Survival Skills
- Life Skills
- Study Skills
- Test-Taking Skills
TRIO TS ACADEMIC STANDARDS

TS participants are required to maintain the following to continue enrollment in TRIO Talent Search:

- GPA requirements should meet minimum standards for UNC System College Admission (2.5 unweighted GPA)
- Meet twice annually with TS Coordinator and/or attend TRIO events
- If a student changes to a non TRIO TS served school, Student/Parent are required to maintain participation and submit annual end of year unofficial transcripts showing GPA.
- Engage in rigorous curriculum through advised course selection

NC GRADING SCALE

In January 2015, the North Carolina State Board of Education approved a standard 10-point grading scale for all students in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12.

Local school districts are required to follow the new scale at the high school level (grades 9-12), and they may use it in lower grades. TRIO-partner middle schools have also adopted the 10-point scale for all students in grades 6, 7, and 8. Under the scale, grades and grade point average calculations (high school only) will be applied as follows:

A: 90-100 = 4.0
B: 80-89 = 3.0
C: 70-79 = 2.0
D: 60-69 = 1.0
F: < 59 = 0.0

These grades will be reported on the transcript as numeric grades, rather than letter grades.

The quality points standard provides an additional .5 quality point to Honors courses and a 1.0 additional quality point to Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate courses, community colleges courses, or four year university or college courses taken in high school. This standard provides the same additional quality point to all college-level coursework.
PARENTAL ADVOCACY CHECKLIST

When meeting on behalf of your child, consider using the following resource information as appropriate:

☐ School calendar

☐ School attendance policies

☐ Graduation requirements

☐ State testing information

☐ Academic requirements for each grade level

☐ Required and elective courses by grade level (Accelerated/Honors/AP/IB courses)

☐ Information on the scheduling process

☐ School rules/code of conduct

☐ Information on extracurricular activities

☐ Eligibility requirements for sports and other programs

☐ School tutoring and special-needs options

☐ Summer school options

☐ How to contact your child’s school/guidance counselor

☐ The name and contact information for your TRIO TS Coordinator (see TRIO TS Contact Information)
TRIO TS GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

General:

1. The academic school year activities are from August to May. Summer enrichment activities will also be planned in June and July.
2. Meals & transportation will be provided to students while attending TS sponsored activities.
3. NC State TRIO TS will provide transportation to and from events. The bus/van will depart at scheduled pickup times and will not wait for anyone.

Parents:

1. Parents may participate in TS events. Parents who wish to serve as chaperones and/or volunteers must make arrangements with the TS staff in advance and complete all necessary documents and background checks.
2. Parents must remain with student(s) at bus pick up until student has checked in with TRIO Staff and loads the bus. Please do not load bus without TRIO staff present or leave students unattended at drop off sites.
3. Parents are to pick up students according to scheduled times at their designated pick-up locations. Two or more repeated instances of tardiness (more than 10 minutes) will result in written notification from the Program Director, and possible travel restrictions.
4. Uber/Lyft pick ups, and students walking home are not permitted without prior written consent from parents.
Students:

1. Any student committed to participating in a TS-sponsored charter trip, or advanced-fee purchased event who fails to attend, will be placed on travel restrictions which may result in: Forfeit of right to travel on future charter or non-charter trips.

2. TRIO TS-issued t-shirts must be worn in an appropriate manner. They may not be altered or defamed in anyway. Consequences could result in immediate dismissal or financial retribution (replacement cost for shirt).

3. Students should wear occasion appropriate clothing and shoes. Students dressed inappropriately will not be permitted to load the bus.
   a. Clothing must not be disruptive to the learning process, offensive, provocative or revealing.
   b. Shirts with sleeves required (no tanks, spaghetti straps, camis, etc.)
   c. Overly revealing clothing and/or sleepwear (pajamas, slippers/slides, bonnets, etc.) are not permitted.

4. Fighting, using abusive and/or profane language, stealing, violating policy and regulations, disrespect, unbecoming attitude, disinterest in program or activities and unruly behavior will not be permitted. The abuse of the aforementioned statement is grounds for immediate dismissal.

5. To ensure safety, measures must be taken to prevent a fire hazard. Students tampering with fire alarms, fire extinguishers, or other safety equipment will automatically be dismissed.
6. North Carolina State University prohibits any form of illegal gambling, drugs, tobacco, firearms or weapons, and alcoholic beverages to be used or possessed on the campus. Any TRIO TS student caught in the possession of or participating in activities relative to the aforementioned will be dismissed immediately and/or trespassed.

7. Public & Private Display of Affection (PPDA): Students shall refrain from public/private displays of affection while participating in program activities (kissing, hugging, nuzzling, etc.).

8. Any student caught shoplifting will automatically be dismissed from the program. No exceptions.

9. Any student that harasses/disrespects another student, facilitator, chaperone, or TRIO TS Program Staff whether it's personal, sexual or aggravated, will be dismissed immediately from the program.

10. No food, drinks, or gum will be allowed on the NC State activity buses or classrooms at any time. Food will be permitted on public school activity buses at the discretion of the drivers. Buses must be cleaned upon exiting.

11. Students will be held financially responsible for destruction of personal property, and any serious offense will warrant dismissal from the program.
RESOURCES

TRIO TS Webpage: http://trio.dasa.ncsu.edu/talent-search

TRIO TS Senior Webpage: www.go.ncsu.edu/ts-seniors

Free Online Tutoring and Special Needs

Wake County Homework Help: http://www.wcpss.net/Page/1868

Middle School Resources: www.middleschool.net/resources-middleschool-students.htm

Individualized Education Program (IEP): www.understood.org/en

Advocacy: www.disabilityrightsnc.org/education-self-advocacy-resources

College and Career Planning

College Foundation North Carolina (CFNC): www.cfnc.org

College Greenlight: www.collegegreenlight.com

Big Future: https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org

The Common Application: www.commonapp.org

UNC System Minimum Admission Requirements: www.northcarolina.edu/?q=prospective-students/minimum-admission-requirements

Competitive High School Curriculum

Advanced Placement (AP): https://apstudent.collegeboard.org

International Baccalaureate (IB): www.ibo.org

IB Program at SSS High School: http://sss.johnston.k12.nc.us/cms/one.aspx?objectId=3723581
Standardized and Placement Tests

ACT: www.actstudent.org

SAT: http://sat.collegeboard.org

ACCUPLACER (Community College Placement):
www.accuplacer.org

Financial Aid & Scholarships

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): https://fafsa.ed.gov

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE (required for select colleges—Duke, UNC-Chapel Hill, Wake Forest, Elon, Davidson—with FAFSA):
http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile

Wake County Scholarships: www.scholarshipplus.com/Wake

Johnston County Scholarships:
http://njhs.johnston.k12.nc.us/student_services/grade_12/scholarships

General Scholarship Information and Resources:

www.scholarships.com
www.finaid.org/scholarships

Anti-Bullying and Crisis Prevention:

www.pacerteensagainstbullying.org
www.stopbullying.gov
http://cyberbullying.us
http://www.afsp.org
www.pflagtriangle.org
Contact Information

Office Telephone: 919.515.6447 | Fax: 919.515.4581

After Hours Cell Phone: 919.208.7099

Email: TRIO-TalentSearch@ncsu.edu

Website: trio.dasa.ncsu.edu/talent-search

TRIO Staff

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