

# EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH TIMES

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Happy  
New year  
2025

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## WHAT'S NEW!

- ▶ New academic advisor  
Kaitlyn Dyshkant



## ANNOUNCEMENT

The TRIO office will be closed on January 20th & February 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Presidents Day.



## FROM THE COORDINATOR

Happy New Year from TRIO Talent Search!

As we begin a new year and the second semester, I want to take a moment to wish you all a successful and productive start to 2025. This is an exciting and busy time, full of opportunities to take big steps toward your academic and career goals. Seniors, this is the perfect time to complete your FAFSA and apply to colleges and universities—don't wait until the last minute! Juniors, make sure you register and prepare to take the ACT, an important step in your college preparation journey. For all students, planning ahead and staying organized will help you manage these priorities alongside your daily schoolwork and activities.

In addition to these major milestones, don't forget to prepare and study for upcoming projects, exams, and assignments. Meeting with your TRIO advisor each month is crucial for staying on track and getting personalized guidance, no matter your grade level. Your advisor can help you set realistic goals, tackle challenges, and create a clear path forward. Whether you're reviewing college applications, preparing for the ACT, or managing your time effectively, we're here to support you every step of the way. Let's work together to make this semester one of growth, achievement, and progress toward your dreams!



Paul, ETS Coordinator

## UPCOMING EVENTS

JAN 20

MLK, JR DAY

FEB 3

COLLEGE TOUR APPS  
DUE

FEB 17

PRESIDENTS DAY

MAR 3-4

COLLEGE TOURS



# SCHOOLS SERVED



OREM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL  
TIMPANOGOS MIDDLE SCHOOL  
WASATCH HIGH SCHOOL

SHORELINE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PROVO HIGH SCHOOL

ROOSEVELT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
UINTAH RIVER HIGH SCHOOL  
UNION HIGH SCHOOL

CENTENNIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL  
TIMPVIEW HIGH SCHOOL



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## NEWS & UPDATES FROM YOUR ADVISOR

### FROM LESA IN ROOSEVELT



Happy New Year!

Each year approximately 17 million (studentaid.gov) high school seniors complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FASFA. The FASFA uses data collected from parent's taxes (from the previous year) to determine if the student is eligible for government grants and loans. One type of grant available to students is a Pell Grant. Pell Grants do not require repayment.



All public (and some private) colleges and universities in the state of Utah have committed to the Utah Promise Scholarship. The Utah Promise Scholarship is a commitment to Utah students who are: incoming freshmen, meet the academic requirements and qualify for a Pell Grant. If there is any remaining balance of their tuition owed after the Pell Grant has been applied, the Utah Promise will pay the balance of the student's tuition. Additionally, all need based scholarships require FASFA completion for eligibility. That is why ETS advisors are constantly reminding students to complete the FASFA. Don't let your student miss out on what could potentially be free money for college.

FASFA is completed during 12th grade. As all parents of seniors know, this is a stressful, busy time of life for students and parents. By completing the FASFA as soon as possible, parents can help lift some of the stress of wondering how college will be paid for. If you haven't completed your portion of the FASFA and need help, please reach out to your ETS advisor. We are here to help.

Lesla



**IN 2024, THE AVERAGE IN-STATE TUITION AND FEES TO ATTEND A 4-YEAR PUBLIC UNIVERSITY IN UTAH WAS \$7,531 PER YEAR VERSUS THE AVERAGE OUT-OF-STATE TUITION TO ATTEND A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY IN THE US WAS \$27,457 PER YEAR.**

SOURCE: [HTTPS://USHE.EDU/UTAH-COLLEGE-APPLICATION-WEEK/#:~:TEXT=AWARENESS%20ACTIVITY%20IDEAS,-FAFSA%20RESOURCES,-UCAW%20AND%20FAFSA](https://ushe.edu/utah-college-application-week/#:~:text=AWARENESS%20ACTIVITY%20IDEAS,-FAFSA%20RESOURCES,-UCAW%20AND%20FAFSA)



**TEENS NEED 9-9.5 HOURS OF SLEEP A NIGHT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT TEENAGERS GET ENOUGH SLEEP TO SUPPORT BRAIN DEVELOPMENT AND PHYSICAL GROWTH SPURTS. ONE THING THAT CAN HELP TEENS SLEEP BETTER IS HAVING SCREEN FREE TIME BEFORE BED. TRY IT OUT!**

[HTTPS://WWW.HOPKINSMEDICINE.ORG/HEALTH/WELLNESS-AND-PREVENTION/TEENAGERS-AND-SLEEP-HOW-MUCH-SLEEP-IS-ENOUGH](https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/teenagers-and-sleep-how-much-sleep-is-enough)



## NEWS & UPDATES FROM YOUR ADVISOR

**CONTINUED**

### FROM MANDY IN HEBER



Happy New Year Wasatch Students and Families!

In January, our focus is on the cost of college and how to best plan for it. In our monthly meetings, we will look at the current costs of college and how grants, scholarships, and jobs can help to cover those costs. We will also discuss other ways to save money such as taking concurrent enrollment classes in high school, choosing to live at home or with roommates, and opting to attend college in Utah – to avoid costly out-of-state tuition.



TIMPANOGOS MIDDLE SCHOOL  
**HIGHLANDERS**  
CLIMB HIGHER

Seniors, most of you have completed FAFSA applications, which is fantastic. If you haven't, please do so this month. Now is also a good time to be working on scholarship applications. Keep in mind, many scholarships require FAFSA completion, resumes, essays, and/or letters of recommendation.

Juniors, applications are now available for the Junior College Tour coming up March 3-4. This will be a fun, free trip to check out college campuses and spend time with other college-bound students. There are only eight spots, and it's first come, first served - so don't wait!

Remember to stop by Wasatch High School Room 221 or reach out to me with any questions.



### FROM TRESSA IN PROVO



Happy New Year, everyone!

January is such a wonderful time to reflect on the first semester of the year and realign our goals for the second half of the school year. Hopefully we are all feeling rejuvenated and energized after the relaxing school break.

This month most groups will be focusing on financial literacy, speaking about the cost of college. Seniors, thanks to those of you who submitted your resumes. I hope you are all working on your FAFSA applications if you have not already submitted them. It is important to get those done as soon as possible.

The ACT for juniors at Provo High will be March 11th! Remember, you can take the ACT multiple times so if you aren't happy with your initial score, you can try again! If you need a waiver, come and see me!

We are looking forward to our Junior Mini-Campus tour, which is March 3-4. Make sure that you fill out an application for the trip if you want to come! It will be a great opportunity to see different campuses in Utah.

It has been exciting to add new members at Shoreline Middle School and Provo High. We have great students, and I have really enjoyed getting to know all of you better. If I haven't met you yet or you haven't come to many GGA's please come! There is a place for everyone and we can work towards your goals together.





## FROM KIMBER IN PROVO

Hello TRiO students and families!

Kimber has moved on from her role as a TRiO Talent Search advisor to work in the family business. We are excited to welcome Kaitlyn Dyshkant as her replacement! Kaitlyn is returning to TRiO after a brief break over the summer, bringing two years of advising experience to the team. She is eager to get started and is looking forward to meeting all of her students at Centennial Middle School and Timpview High School.



## FROM AIMEE IN OREM

Hello Educational Talent Search students and parents!

My name is Aimee Burr and I am the ETS Academic Advisor for Mountain View and Orem Junior. I just started in October, and I am having so much fun getting to know my students at our group activities!

My best tip for getting the most out of ETS: show up! That means coming to all group activities. For my Orem Junior students, I will assign you to my flex activity. For my Mountain View students, we meet in the counseling center conference room, and I will text you the date for each activity and then a reminder that morning. You will get the most out of ETS if you are there, but for anyone who didn't make it, I will email out the activity afterwards, often with instructions to complete something and return it to me. Please remember to check your email regularly!



THE IVY LEAGUE IS MADE UP OF EIGHT PRESTIGIOUS PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES: BROWN UNIVERSITY, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, CORNELL UNIVERSITY, DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, AND YALE UNIVERSITY.

[HTTPS://WWW.COLLEGERAPTOR.COM/FIND-COLLEGES/ARTICLES/COLLEGE-NEWS-TRENDS/FUN-FACTS-COLLEGES-AMERICA/](https://www.collegeraptor.com/find-colleges/articles/college-news-trends/fun-facts-colleges-america/)

# SENIORS, ARE YOU ON TRACK TO EARNING A GRADUATION CORD?



## EARN A TRiO GRADUATION CORD

(Educational Talent Search & Upward Bound)

**To earn a graduation cord, earn 12 points by the May 1, 2025 deadline**

TASK TO COMPLETE	POINT VALUE	EARNED
1. FASFA completion	1 point	
2. Senior Resume (with photo) submission	1 point	
3. Apply to college	5 points	
a. Apply to a college in Utah (1 pt each, 3 pts max)		
b. Apply to a college outside of Utah (2 pts each, 2 pts. max)		
4. Apply for scholarships	5 points	
a. Application to a scholarship that requires an essay (1 pt each, 3 pts max)		
b. Application to Daniels Fund Scholarship (2 pts, 2 pts max)		
5. Check in with advisor (monthly) re: Sr. Guide Checklist	1 point	
6. UB: attend 1 summer program over 4 years, or ETS: attend mini college trip	2 points	
7. Submit a student spotlight to advisor with photo (Sr. yr.)	1 point	
8. Take the ACT	3 points	
a. First time (1 pt), Retake ACT (2 pts), 3 pts max		
9. Attend GGA's in senior year (ETS 6, UB 10)	1 point	
10. Complete Senior Exit Survey	1 point	
11. Register for National TRiO Alumni Association with COE	1 point	
12. Recruit one "both" student into either ETS or UB	3 points	
a. Each application is 1 pt, 3 pts max		
	<b>25 points possible</b>	

I certify, as the TRiO Academic Advisor for \_\_\_\_\_ (student name), that named student has earned at least 12 points to earn a 2025 graduation cord from the UVU TRiO Program. Signed,

Approved  
09/23/2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Academic Advisor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date