

EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH TIMES

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WHAT'S NEW!

- ▶ New academic advisor
Aimee Burr
- ▶ Alumni Spotlight



FROM THE COORDINATOR

As we approach Thanksgiving, it's a wonderful time to reflect on what we're grateful for and focus on goals for the future. For our 7th–12th grade students, this season is a perfect opportunity to revisit your academic and personal aspirations. Students, make sure you're keeping up with your grades as the semester nears its end—strong academic performance now will open doors for opportunities later. Parents, your encouragement and involvement are vital, so take time to check in on progress and celebrate your student's achievements, big or small. This is also a great time to explore enrichment activities like college prep workshops, leadership programs, or volunteering opportunities, which can make a lasting impact on future college and scholarship applications.

Additionally, we want to remind our seniors and their families that this year's FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) opens on December 1. Completing the FAFSA early is one of the most important steps in securing financial aid for college. If you have questions or need assistance, our team is here to help—whether that's setting up an account, walking through the application process, or understanding your financial aid options. Let's work together to ensure you're ready to take full advantage of the opportunities ahead. Enjoy your holiday season, and let's finish this year strong!



Paul, ETS Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 1

FASFA OPENS

DEC 14

ACT TEST DATE

DEC 16

SENIOR RESUMES DUE

DEC 24

TRIO OFFICE CLOSED 'TIL JAN 2



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

Hello students, parents and school administrators!

Did you know that according to the blog Teamstage, Utah is the most altruistic US state, with 51% of the state's population reporting volunteer work. Volunteer statistics by state show that Minnesota is the second most engaged state, with 45.1% of volunteers. Oregon, Alaska, and Iowa are also in the top five. Florida has the fewest volunteers, with just 22.8% of residents volunteering.



Scholarship committees are often interested in investing in students who are committed to making the world a better place. After asking applicants to share their personal narrative, applications often ask a question like "Talk about your most meaningful volunteer experience and why it was meaningful to you." It may be helpful for students to keep a list of volunteer experiences they have had throughout high school, and why participating mattered to them.

If your student needs a little encouragement finding and participating in volunteer experiences, they might want to consider joining a club at school. Most clubs are committed to providing students with an opportunity to serve others and some clubs, such as Interact Club, have service as their sole objective. Knowing what your student is passionate about can help you guide them in finding a club to match their interests and provide a place for them to serve others and help make our world a better place. If your student needs help finding a club that matches their interests, reach out to your ETS advisor and we can help them get connected with the right people.



VOLUNTEERING STATISTICS FOR 2024: HOW CHARITABLE ARE WE? EVERY DAY, MILLIONS OF PEOPLE VOLUNTEER FOR THOUSANDS OF DIFFERENT COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS—READ THE LATEST VOLUNTEERING STATISTICS.

<https://teamstage.io/volunteering-statistics/>



A RECENT STUDY FOUND THAT STUDENTS FEEL BETTER IN THEIR FIRST WEEKS OF COLLEGE THE MORE THEY ENGAGE IN KINDNESS TOWARD OTHERS. REMEMBER TO BE KIND!

SOURCE: [HTTPS://GREATERGOOD.BERKELEY.EDU/ARTICLE/ITEM/HOW_KINDNESS_MAY_HELP_STUDENTS_TRANSITION_TO_COLLEGE](https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/how_kindness_may_help_students_transition_to_college)



NEWS & UPDATES FROM YOUR ADVISOR

CONTINUED

FROM MANDY IN HEBER



Hello Wasatch Students and Families!

We have had a lot going on for TRIO ETS members - from learning about concurrent enrollment options to recruiting new members to Utah College Application Week. In November, our focus is on becoming more effective communicators. Effective communication is an important but often-overlooked skill with a big impact on your future success. Our goal is to be assertive by clearly and respectfully stating thoughts and feelings. Try to notice how you communicate this month, and make an effort to be more assertive. Stand tall and speak with confidence, showing your respect for others and earning their respect in return.



TIMPANOGOS MIDDLE SCHOOL
HIGHLANDERS
CLIMB HIGHER

Seniors, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available in December. In preparation, please take the time to create a studentaid.gov account. This should make your FAFSA application process smoother and quicker next month. Also, remember to complete and submit your senior resumes by the end of November. Please stop by Room 221 or reach out to me with any questions.

Juniors, please "save the date" for this year's ETS Mini College Trip: March 3-4. This will be a great opportunity to tour multiple universities, participate in fun activities, and build relationships with other TRIO ETS members. I hope many of you will be able to attend. Also, now is the time to register for

the ACT. Stop by Room 221 to get a TRIO ACT fee waiver so you can take it for free!



Have a great month and thank you for all that you do!

FROM TRESSA IN PROVO



Hello Shoreline Middle and Provo High students!

It has been great getting to know you more the past couple of months.

Last month we worked on Personal Education Plans in our group meetings. Students were able to think about their educational goals now and in the future. We will be building on our PEP's this month by talking about Goal Setting and why it is important as well as setting personal goals.

Seniors, you need to be creating your FSA ID if you haven't done so yet! You can do this by going to studentaid.gov/fsa-id.

Parents of seniors will also need an account if they don't have one already. Provo High has a "Beyond High School" resource and FAFSA night on December 4th from 6- 8 pm.

Juniors, mark your calendars for our mini college campus tour which will be on March 3 and 4. I hope that many of you will be able to come and that it will be a great experience seeing different campuses across the state.



Thanks!
Tressa



FROM KIMBER IN PROVO

Hello TRiO students and families!

We're fully into the swing of things and I hope this year is shaping up to be a great one! Here are a few reminders:

Seniors: Apply for college!! Sign up for FAFSA! Apply for scholarships! Please let me know if you need help applying for college and if you haven't started applying for college yet, start applying now! If you need help with any step in this process, please contact me.

Juniors: If you haven't taken the ACT yet, now is the time to sign up and start preparing. The next test is December 14th. You can still register until November 22nd (but there is a late fee for this test). I have fee waivers for the test. Let me know if you need one and I can get you one!

All students: Do your best to always attend class and turn in your work. If you need help with your schoolwork, please reach out and we can find a time to meet for tutoring.

It's been great working with you all and getting to know you! Please continue to come to meetings and remember to reach out if I can help you with anything from applications to schoolwork.



FROM AIMEE IN OREM

Hello TRiO Students and Parents,

I am so excited to be part of the ETS team and serve the students at Mountain View and Orem Junior!

My name is Aimee Burr. I grew up in Virginia, and I was a low-income, first-generation college student. I graduated from BYU with a degree in education, got married, and then spent many years raising our 4 children. Our youngest is about to graduate from UTSA, and I'd love the chance to help more students do the same! I firmly believe that everyone deserves the chance to further their education, and that higher education changes lives.

We have just started having activities and I am enjoying getting to know each of my students and their goals for the future. I know it's hard for the high schoolers to meet during lunch, but it's the only time we have. Please bring your lunch and make it a priority to attend, so you can benefit from this wonderful program!



MORE THAN THREE-QUARTERS OF COLLEGE APPLICANTS GET INTO THEIR FIRST-CHOICE SCHOOLS. THE AVERAGE FINANCIAL AID AWARD PER STUDENT IS NEARLY \$15,000

[HTTPS://WWW.PRINCETONREVIEW.COM/COLLEGE-ADVICE/11-SURPRISING-FACTS-COLLEGE-ADMISSION](https://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/11-surprising-facts-college-admission)



Going forward we would like to highlight our TRIO Educational Talent Search Alumni that have participated in the program at Utah Valley University. While we are building and connecting to our Educational Talent Search Alumni, we would like to share this article on a former TRIO Upward Bound alum who participated in the first year of the program at Utah Valley University.

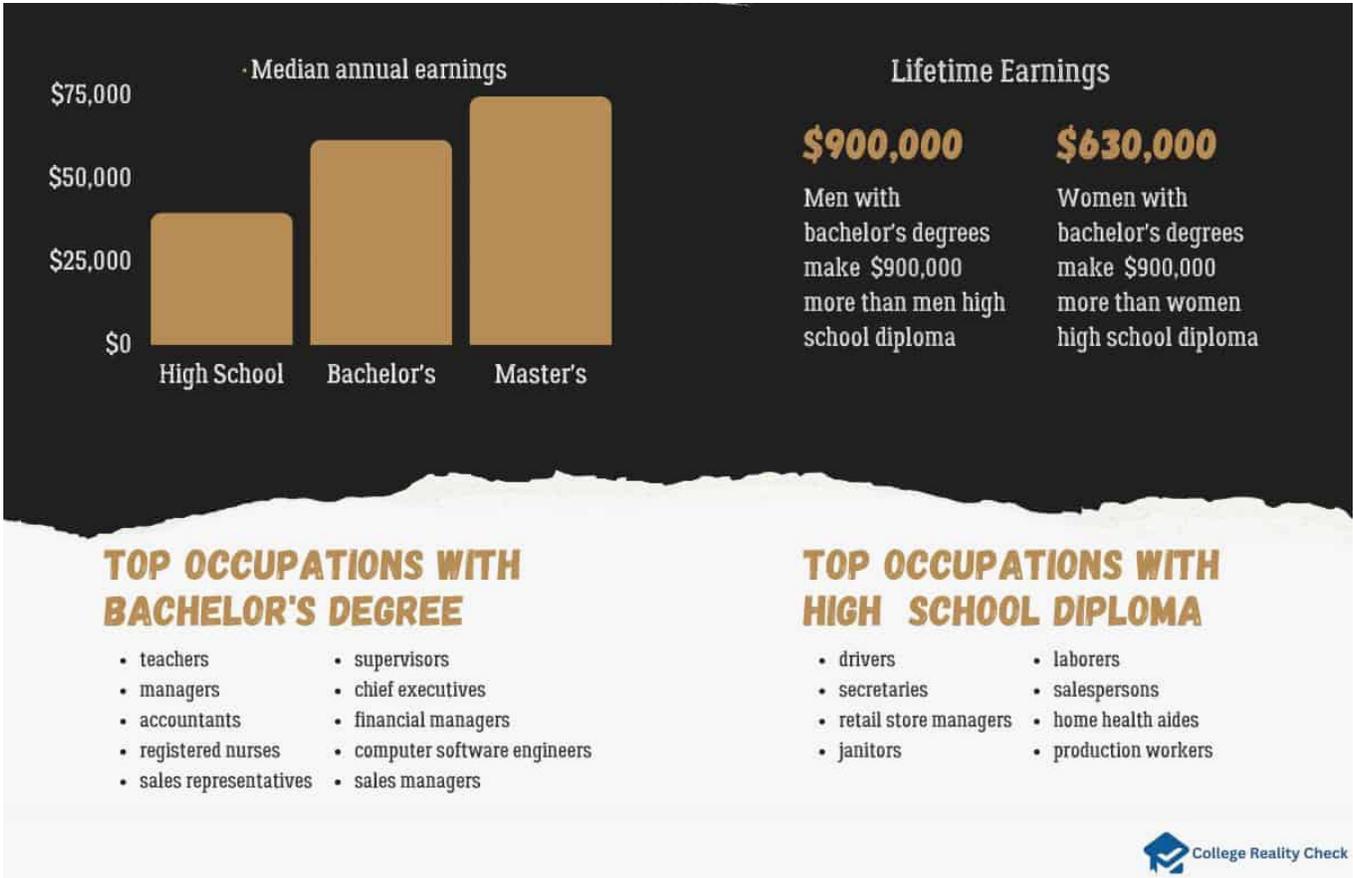


Angela Clark Young's experience in the Upward Bound program during her senior year of high school (1993-94) laid the foundation for her success in higher education. Although her time in the program was brief, it was profoundly impactful. Through weekly meetings and assessments, Angela discovered how her personality aligned with different careers and used this knowledge to create a personalized educational plan. She gained clarity on her academic path, selecting a college major and identifying the degrees needed to pursue her goals. With the support of her advisor, Angela navigated the often-overwhelming college application process, meeting critical deadlines for the ACT, college applications, scholarships, and FAFSA. Her advisor provided check-lists, reminders, and encouragement, ensuring she secured acceptance to Snow College along with a combination of scholarships, a Pell Grant, and work-study opportunities that made college financially accessible.

A highlight of the program for Angela was the six-week Upward Bound summer camp at Utah Valley State College (now UVU). During the camp, she took college courses, lived in an apartment with peers, and experienced a taste of college life. She learned essential skills such as navigating campus, following course outlines, studying for exams, and managing stress—experiences that built her confidence and prepared her for the transition to Snow College. Angela went on to earn an associate degree at Snow College in 1996 and a bachelor's degree in Recreation Management with double minors in Human Resources and Mandarin Chinese from Utah State University. She attributes much of her academic and personal success to the mentorship, resources, and experiences provided by Upward Bound. Angela now shares the knowledge she gained with her children and others, encouraging them to pursue their educational dreams.

Angela also advises students to seek out the Student Support Services (SSS) office once they enter college. SSS, a partner program to Upward Bound, offers ongoing mentorship, guidance, and resources to help students navigate the challenges of college from their freshman year through graduation. Angela regrets not having access to such a resource during her time in college but believes it would have further enriched her experience. She encourages students to take advantage of SSS, as its staff are well-versed in campus policies, procedures, and support networks, ensuring students stay on track and achieve their educational goals.





[HTTPS://COLLEGEREALITYCHECK.COM/COLLEGE-STATISTICS/](https://collegerealitycheck.com/college-statistics/)



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		
	25 points possible	

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