

# TRIO Student Support Services

Wenatchee Valley College



Our Student Lounge in Mish ee twee 1221 offers various resources for students including: study space, computer and laptops, group study nook, information on campus resources, school supplies, and more.

## Get Connected

We love getting to know more staff and faculty around campus! Please stop by our office in Mish ee twee (MET) 1221 or reach out to us. Student referrals are accepted and appreciated.

**Phone:** 509.682.6978

**Email:** [trio@wvc.edu](mailto:trio@wvc.edu)

**Website:** [wvc.edu/trio](http://wvc.edu/trio)

**Linktree:** [linktr.ee/wvctrioss](https://linktr.ee/wvctrioss)

## In This Issue:

- p.1 - Refer Students to TRIO SSS
- p.2 - Your Words Have Power
  - Thank You, Campus Partners
- p.3 - Upcoming this Spring
  - We Are TRIO Students
- p.4 - What is the difference between CAMP, MESA, and TRIO SSS?
  - Highlights from Winter Quarter



Do you know someone who might benefit from extra support? Refer a student to TRIO SSS Scan the QR code or visit [linktr.ee/wvctrioss](https://linktr.ee/wvctrioss) to complete our quick online referral form.

---

## Featured Article

---

### Your Words Have Power

As staff and faculty, we know our words have an impact on students, but it can be easy to forget just how much power our words hold. I was recently reminded of the impact when a student called me with an incident to share.

Unbeknownst to me, **the student had been mentally preparing for this conversation for weeks.** They were nervous because they didn't want to complain or be singled out. It took prodding from someone in their support network to finally get on the phone with me.

The student had been having some problems with one of their instructors. **An off-handed comment in class one day shaped their entire learning experience.** The student had stopped performing well in all of their classes and felt overwhelming internal pressure to quit college altogether. To protect the student's privacy and wishes, I won't provide any further details here, but I think this story is worth sharing nonetheless.

We can't please every student all the time. But being intentional with our lessons and words can make a big difference in someone's life. Sometimes people pick up on subtle cues and implicit biases that we don't see in ourselves.

The bias incident response team is a crucial group here on campus, but not every student will speak up. Not every student has a support system that is involved enough to help them reach out. When a student has doubts about their place in our community, one small remark can be all it takes for them to leave.

### Thank You, Campus Partners

We know ***so many of you*** actively support your students and make WVC a great place to learn. Sometimes, our students mention staff/faculty by name and tell us how much they've helped. A special thank you from our staff and students to:

- Marichuy Alvizar
- Oscar Licon-Eusebio
- Roberto Villa
- Levi Vega-Sanchez
- Mary Adamski
- Cheryl Fritz
- Talia Barajas Gonzalez
- Sompheng Batch
- Dr. Karina Vega-Villa
- Hilary Martinez
- Michael Lesky
- Ayla Medina Ulloa
- Claire Tompkins
- and so many more...



To that end, I encourage us all to continuously reflect on our biases and the language we use with our students. Whether the intent is to inspire and encourage, or to caution and share wisdom: **your words have power.** They can be the difference between student success and feelings of isolation.

The student who spoke with me felt targeted, singled-out, and offended. While I assume the instructor had positive intentions, *my* perspective isn't what matters. Regardless of the intent, the perceived attack sent this hard-working, motivated student into a spiral of self-doubt and shame. **I am proud of the student's resilience in the face of difficult situations and their choice to persist.** I now think of this student and their experience daily. It serves as a useful reminder that my words have power.

- Jenna Floyd (TRIO SSS Retention Specialist)



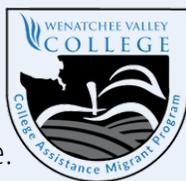
## What is the difference between CAMP, MESA, and TRIO SSS?

WVC houses many grant-funded programs that are here to assist students in their education. Three similar, yet distinct programs on our Wenatchee Campus are CAMP, MESA, and TRIO SSS. While all three programs have similar goals and services, each is designed with a certain group of students in mind. Do you know the difference between them?

**All three programs require** students to be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, have a high school diploma or GED at the time of starting the program, and meet other program-specific criteria that is not necessarily listed below. Please refer students to our programs, even if you're unsure of eligibility. Staff are available to assist and direct students to appropriate resources.

### College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)

serves students from migrant and seasonal farmworking backgrounds. Students join the program as a cohort during their first year of college. Unlike MESA and TRIO SSS, CAMP provides direct financial assistance to students. At the end of their first year, CAMP students leave the program, but continue to be knowledgeable and successful students at WVC and beyond. Many students transition from CAMP to MESA and/or TRIO in their second year.



### The **Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement**

**(MESA)** program offers academic and professional support services to underrepresented students in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Students may join in their first and/or second year. Participants in MESA often graduate with strength and confidence to transfer and complete a bachelor's in their chosen STEM field.



### TRIO Student Support Services (SSS)

serves students who are first-generation, disabled, and/or who meet income guidelines. Students receive one-on-one support through quarterly meetings with our retention specialist and regular workshops. While we like to accept students early in their education, we accept students up until the quarter before they graduate. Based on Annual Performance Report data, participants in TRIO SSS keep good academic standing, persist, graduate, and transfer at significantly higher rates than their peers\*. We are still accepting students this year.



\*We are defining "peers" as students who are eligible for TRIO SSS, but do not participate in the program.

### Highlights from Winter 2022

Winter Quarter was very busy in the TRIO SSS office. In addition to regular 1:1 appointments with students and monthly Scholar Meetings, we host a number of workshops to help our students learn useful skills.

### This quarter we hosted:

- Scholarship writing workshop
- Summer Internships information session
- Career mentor highlights from guest speaker, Dr. Yasmin Barrios
- Surviving College on a Budget workshop
- Campus-wide: Managing Stress During Finals workshop (recording available to all)