



# TRIO/SSS Program



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## Students have responsibilities while participating in Program

TRIO participants have several responsibilities while participating in our program. These short and long term tasks require a commitment from the student while pursuing their educational goals. Among them:

- ◆ Responsibility Agreement: You agree to attend classes on a regular, consistent basis.
- ◆ Attend required Workshops for Financial and academic skills development.
- ◆ Agree to meet with the Peer Mentor and Tutors as needed.
- ◆ With staff assistance, develop an Educational Action Plan that addresses your Academic needs along with short and long range goals.

Participants also agree to meet with the SSS Counselors to document and assist you with meeting your educational goals. The benefits of fully participating in our program are substantial. Fresh-

man and Sophomores can qualify for the Grant aid scholarship if they meet the criteria. (see page 2 for details) We award \$28,000.00 each year. Attending our workshops will help you improve your Financial Literacy skills. We also offer essay writing, test preparation and many other skill building workshops for your benefit.

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## Peer Mentors and Tutors

Starting in 1999, we have had successful students assist the newer ones with meeting the expectations of the OLC college environment. Having experienced the de-

mands/requirements and overcoming obstacles. Peer Mentors can communicate and relate on a "student to student" basis. They also tutor in their subject area. Tutors are

available for Math, Writing, Computer skills and many other subjects. Peer Tutors must attend the mandatory "Tutors Guide" Training.

### OLC Funded Tutoring

Is for all undergraduate students. For those students who just desire tutoring, they are not required to enroll in the TRIO/SSS Program.

## Director's Corner

There are over 1,000 TRIO/SSS programs across the U.S.

Our 24th year of serving students ! Nationally, there is an on going fight to continue funding for the Department of Education. Cuts to funding have already been proposed by the current administration. Regionally, USD Vermillion lost their SSS grant two years ago along with Sinte Gleska

University. Statewide, we have Sisseton, Northern, Dakota Wesleyan at Mitchell and Black Hills State along with us continuing with our TRIO/SSS Programs. Nationally, there are over 1,000 SSS programs We are starting our second year of a new five year grant. Our focus will

be on improving the graduation rate of our participants. We are required to serve 206 program participants each year.

## \$1,000.00 SSS Grant Aid Scholarships available

*“Students can apply for the Grant aid scholarship if they fully participate in the program and complete the full academic year”*

We will award 28 Scholarships to deserving Freshmen and Sophomores. Program participants must complete the full academic year with no F's, W's and they fully participate in the program

activities and services. The applications are due October 15th along with your Biography/essay on how the SSS Grant aid scholarship will benefit you in reaching your educational goals. You can

earn points by keeping your appointments, attending classes and workshops.

## Counselor's office: AI Wounded Head-PRCC/OCC

Greetings to all the staff, faculty and students! As a former participant, Tutor and Peer Mentor I can relate to all of you! As an OLC student I participated in Student Senate and many other

activities. As a staff member I can share my experience with students as they struggle and succeed in their pursuit of education. So, if you need help, have any questions or want to assist others;

just stop my office down the hallway at PRCC. “When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts”-Dalai Lama

**Counselor's office: Diana Lessert, PSCC/EWCC/WKCC**

Welcome back OLC students, Faculty and staff! I am Diana Lessert, Counselor for TRIO participants at Pahin Sinte, Wounded Knee and East Wakpamni CC's. I have been with the program three years and I have enjoyed every minute!

I have an AA in General Business, AA in accounting and an AAS in Business Computers. I hope to finish my B.S. in Business very soon. I am planning to have Tutors at all three centers. Watch for my flyers on various workshops that are planned.



I am second from right, back row

**Counselor's office: Cassie Big Crow, HSCC**

Welcome back students, friends and family! I am so excited to see your smiling faces again! We want you to actively participate in the program! We have Tutors and a Peer Mentor to assist you when overcoming ob-

stacles. We will be doing fundraising again so plan on helping out! (This is our Tutoring room at the He Sapa College Center)



Place workshop tutoring photo here;

**Counselor's Office, Danielle Griffith, PHCC/ENCC**

Welcome new and returning students! I am Danielle Griffith. I graduated from OLC with my B.S. in Business last June. I serve both PHCC and ENCC. We will have workshops for Financial aid, Grammar and spelling, test taking

and others. Remember, you Grant aid applicants get points for participating. Stop by the office and share your ideas! (picture at right shows Phil Zimiga and I with Jerilyn Chasing Hawk from financial aid.



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[www.olc.edu](http://www.olc.edu)  
(click on students,  
then TRIO SSS)

New Freshmen Orientation at the Multipurpose building was held in August of 2016 and is planned again this year. The SSS Program Director and the TRIO Counselor from Pahin Sinte CC welcome new OLC students and to take a look at the services that the program has to offer. Staff of TRIO/SSS are always involved with Orientations at the College Center's. SSS participants will receive their program Orientation soon after enrollment.



## Annual Awards at Pahin Sinte CC

The TRIO/SSS Program annual awards had a great turnout. Tutors were recognized for their efforts at helping our participants with coursework. The Peer Mentors received certificates of recognition for helping out the staff at their home centers and also working with students. We had great door prizes to give away also. To win the first prize all in attendance were asked to answer the question: "Name at least four OLC College

presidents". Nobody was able to answer correctly; so the Director announced the names. We had two TRIO cakes to show and enjoy along with the great barbequed items supervised by Ernie Weston. T-shirts were ordered but delayed one day. We also had great words of encouragement from Anthony Wounded Head. PSCC Local Board member and B.O.T. member. Grant Aid Scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded to 28 Freshman and Sophomores who completed

the academic year successfully. Our annual awards is rotated among our five locations each year. The staff, Peer Mentors and participants do fundraising for items throughout the year. (at right is Alyssa Whirlwind Horse, Ira Wright and Matt Janis)



Peer mentor, Grant aid winner and tutor