**Context:** Many AF alumni are eligible for special support programs (which all fall under the umbrella of “TRIO programs”) targeting first generation, low income or at risk students. While the orientations of these programs are similar, many campuses have different program names. The TRIO Programs are federally-funded educational opportunity programs designed to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds to prepare for, attend, persist in, and graduate from post-secondary education. TRIO includes eight programs that provide academic support for students who are from low-income families and are first-generation. The following is a guide to various programs that are on college campuses, definitions and various resources that these programs offer. The other TRIO programs that serve middle and high school students (Educational Opportunity Centers, Upward Bound, GEAR Up) are not included here.

**How this is useful for alumni counselors:** Alumni counselors should use and update this guide as a way to forge on campus relationships and make recommendations for alumni during the matriculation process, as well as after the alumni are on campus.

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| **Program Name** | **Definition**  | **Eligible students** | **Colleges that have this specific program**  |
| *SSS**(Student Support Services)* | Provides academic support for participants, including students with disabilities, to motivate students to complete post-secondary education with the goal of increasing participant college retention and graduation rates and to facilitate two-year college student transition to four-year institutions. Activities include: basic skills instruction and tutoring; academic, financial, career and personal counseling; assistance with graduate school admission; mentoring; special services for students with limited English proficiency or are homeless or aged out of foster care systems; cultural activities; and academic accommodations for students with disabilities. | * Low income
* First generation
* IEP
* Limited English proficiency
* Homeless youth
* Aged out (from Foster care) youth
 | UCONN |
| *TRIO* | Umbrella of all educational opportunity programs, but the SSS or EOP programs are sometimes named “TRIO” on some campuses. | * Low income
* First generation
* IEP
* Limited English proficiency
 | J.C. Smith |
| *EAP* | Same as EOP/SSS program.  | * Same as above
* [Click here](http://www.wcsu.edu/pcaap/eap/program.asp) for more WCSU EAP info
 | WCSU |
| *STEP/CAP* | Same as EOP/SSS program but is a conditional acceptance for students. They must earn a 2.0 in the 6 week summer program in order to gain acceptance to Eastern CT State U. Support is targeted at freshmen and does not continue beyond freshman year.  | * Same as above
* [Click here](http://www.easternct.edu/asc/stepcap/) for more ECSU STEP/CAP info
 | ECSU |
| *EOP* | Similar to SSS. Educational Opportunity Program students may receive support services, such as academic, career, and personal counseling; tutoring and supplemental instruction. As part of a student's overall financial aid package, the Educational Opportunity Program provides financial assistance for non-tuition related expenses (e.g. books, supplies, etc.). In NY state, it is only at public schools. **For Transfers:** You are eligible for EOP as a transfer student provided you have been enrolled in EOP, College Discovery, HEOP (Higher Education Opportunity Program), SEEK (Search for Education, Elevation and Knowledge) or a similar academic and financial support program at your previous college. If your previous college did not have EOP or a similar program, you may be considered for transfer eligibility and should notify the college to which you are transferring of your interest | * Low income
* First generation
* IEP
* Limited English proficiency
* Traditionally underrepresented minority group
* NY state: must be a resident for at least 12 months prior to applying
 | CCSUSCSU |
| *HEOP* | NY State private schools only. The Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) facilitates students whose financial and academic environments have not allowed their potential to come to fruition. HEOP gives students who have the ability for academic success, but not the requirements for regular admission, the chance to attend competitive NY state colleges. The programs allow students eight to ten semesters to successfully complete a degree. Among the strategies available to meet these needs are testing, pre-freshman summer programs, counseling, tutoring, coursework, and financial assistance | Must qualify for all of the below: * Resident of New York State for one year
* Have a HS diploma
* Educationally disadvantaged (a student who otherwise would not be accepted as a matriculated student under the institution’s normal admissions standards)
* Economically disadvantaged ([click here](http://www.oadi.cornell.edu/heop/prospective/applying/upload/heop-financial-guidelines-2011-2012.pdf) for income guidelines)
* Motivation for college completion
 | On 58 campuses across NY State<http://heop.org/>  |
| *McNair Post-baccalaureate**Program*  | Prepares undergraduates to enter doctoral studies. The goal of McNair is to increase graduate degree attainment by students from low-income, first-generation, and designated under-represented groups. Services include faculty mentoring, scholarly activities to prepare students for doctoral study, summer research internships, tutoring, counseling, assistance with securing graduate program admission and financial aid, preparation for GRE exams, and other activities that enhance successful entry to and persistence in doctoral programs. | Low income, first gen and under-represented college sophomores (when they apply) seeking a post graduate, doctoral degree<http://mcnairscholars.com>  | * Wesleyan
* U of Rochester
* More on the McNair Scholars website under “resources”
 |
| *SEEK* | CUNY only. Summer program mandatory for all incoming SEEK freshmen. Students are enrolled in either academic skills or enrichment workshops, and in a personal development workshop taught by counselors. Every student has an assigned counselor and receives tutoring assistance and access to a designated computer lab.  | * Specific academic requirements that vary depending on the division (i.e. Liberal Arts, Science, Education) or professional school (Architecture, Engineering).
* Low income only
* [Click here](http://www1.ccny.cuny.edu/current/seek/index.cfm) for more information
 | * All CUNY schools
 |
| *ASAP* | CUNY community colleges only. ASAP is designed to help motivated community college students earn their degrees as quickly as possible, with a goal of graduating at least 50% of students within three years. Key ASAP program features include a consolidated block schedule, cohorts by major, small class size, required full-time study and comprehensive advisement and career development services. Financial incentives include tuition waivers for financial aid eligible students and free use of textbooks and monthly Metrocards for all students | * Must be a NYC resident
* Academic requirements – [click here](http://www.cuny.edu/academics/programs/notable/asap/prospective/2011criteria.html)
* Must qualify for some financial aid
* Every CUNY community college may have additional requirements; [click here](http://www.cuny.edu/academics/programs/notable/asap/contactASAP.html) for contact info
 | * All CUNY community colleges
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