

Newsletter August 2020

#### August Newsletter Director's Cut

Welcome to WCCC for the 2020-2021 academic year! This year will look and feel different because of physical distancing efforts to prevent the spread of Covid-19 on campus. TRIO Student Support Services is committed to providing you with all the same great services you have come to know and expect, and we have also transitioned our services to be accessible using online and remote technology.

#### We created new spaces to connect with you.



TRIO Participants will use our Brightspace course this year!
The TRIO team will be offering a series of interactive workshops, chats, Q+A, and more. You will see us listed with the other courses you are enrolled in.

I will release the schedule of workshops closer to the beginning of term. Keep a close eye on your school email account for important updates.



Add us on Facebook

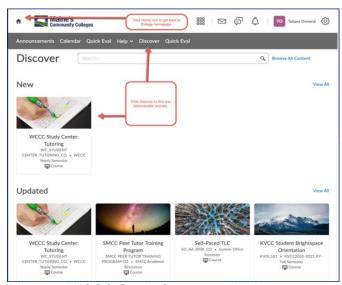
https://www.facebook.com/trio.washingtoncounty

Instagram

Let's use the hashtags #WCCCTRIO and #TRIOworks for our Instagram photos.

## The Study Center is in Brightspace too

Tutoring services are now online. We are 'discoverable' - you will need to search for us and self-enroll. Log into Brightspace, click Discover, and then find and click on the Study Center brick to self-enroll. The 'course' is called <a href="WCCC Study Center: Tutoring">WCCC Study Center: Tutoring</a>. I highly encourage you to add us on Brightspace before your classes begin.



Discover WCCC Study Center on Brightspace

Once again, welcome! Our team is excited to serve you this year.

And We Soar, Nicole Nygren

TRIO SSS Director

Ph: 207-904-8046 | nnygren@wccc.me.edu

# What Is TRIO Student Support Services?

TRIO Student Support Services provides comprehensive services for eligible, matriculated college students to help them succeed in school through graduation. The TRIO Student Support Services program at WCCC has four full time staff, a Director/TRIO Advisor, a Transfer Counselor/ TRIO Advisor, an Accessibility Specialist/TRIO Advisor, and an Administrative Specialist. The Transfer Counselor and Accessibility Specialist work with the full WCCC student body in those respective roles. TRIO also houses the WCCC Study Center, which is available for all WCCC students. TRIO student services include, but are not limited to the following: academic advising and tracking, tutoring and supplemental instruction, career, transfer, and personal counseling, peermentoring, college fairs and visits, cultural activities and education, financial and economic literacy, information and assistance applying for financial aid, workshops related to career and personal development, and referral as needed to other campus or community supports.

WCCC's TRIO SSS program and staff serve 160-170 WCCC students per year. The persistence rate for our TRIO students is 78.8%, with 91.93% of students in good academic standing. In 2019, 54% of TRIO students graduated with a degree (TRIO SSS internal data collection).

Many TRIO students attain honors or high honors on a regular basis, and seven of the last nine WCCC Students of the Year have been TRIO students. TRIO students engage in the WCCC community with the majority of the current Student Senate comprised of TRIO members. TRIO students have represented WCCC at the state level at the All Maine Academic Team and Skills USA, at the national level as a New Century Pathway Scholar, and at the international level as a George Mitchel Peace Scholarship recipient. We are proud of our TRIO students and graduates, and we look forward to working with you this year.

Have you applied for TRIO? Click below; apply now! It's fast and easy, just click here:

https://www.wccc.me.edu/wp-content/uploads/Application-for-TRIO-SSS.pdf

## **TRIO Staff Fall 2020**

<u>Director</u>, Nicole Nygren <u>nnygren@wccc.me.edu</u> ~ 807-454-1062

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TRIO Staff 8-5 / M-F Tutors by appointment Brainfuse 24/7

Administrative Specialist III, Linda Shattuck Ishattuck@wccc.me.edu ~ 207-454-1064



There are many changes for us all in this challenging year of 2020. As Administrative Assistant and Tutor I am glad to be a member of the TRIO Student

Support Services staff to be available to help by tutoring, answering general questions and directing you to some of our best resources. I am not at my desk this semester, but I am available by phone, email, Brightspace, and Zoom. I also look to working with each of you in building a successful semester. Together we soar.

<u>Transfer Counselor</u>, Pamela Feeney pfeeney@wccc.me.edu ~ 207-454-1079



Welcome back WCCC students, and greetings to our new students for Fall 2020. I enjoy working with students on academic advising and career and transfer counseling. I look forward to working with you this year. Pam

Interim Accessibility Specialist, Liz Sullivan esullivan@wccc.me.edu ~ 207-454-1093



Welcome to the Fall 2020 semester at WCCC! I'll be working as the Accessibilities Specialist; please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about accommodations.



Cultures around the world are changing as a result of Covid-19. Following Maine CDC Guidelines allows us to open our campus to students. Thank you for wearing your mask to protect our community.

# **The Culture Corner: Maine Culture**

"The culture of Maine is not one of bricks and mortar. Rather, it is a product of its natural landscape as well as the habits, traditions, and attitudes of a relatively small population of hearty folks who live in a cold place that juts into the North Atlantic like a balled fist (Robert Klose)."

Mainers are independent people, and we are proud of our state. From the Wilderness of northern and western Maine, to the rocky shoreline Downeast, to the cities of southern Maine, we work hard and value our neighbors and communities. Maine is unique in its diverse lands, industry, and people.



Peak Season in Washington County, Downeast Maine (4:13 min.) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpjB8t\_xApo



St Croix Tissue, Baileyville, Maine (3:03 min.)

https://www.voutube.com/watch?v=OM9GvdYPfRM

Maine's Wild Blueberries, Washington County, Maine (9:07 min.) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cPvmAzIz-8





A Day in the Life of a Maine Lobsterman <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hYWnXjTgaa0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hYWnXjTgaa0</a> (6:44 min.)

Peskotomuhkat: The
Passamaquoddy People –
People of the Dawn – History, Culture & Affiliations
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USkQ\_YoBRho (26:26 min.)



L.L.Bean Bean Success Story
<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5CJYEMcv-0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5CJYEMcv-0</a>
(8:14 min.)

One Week at a Time (from Maine to New York City on inland waterways)



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEyrlRtTEzE (11:17 min.)



Seeds They Sow:
The Potato Harvest in Maine (4:23 min.)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q3r6qWV-zQI

How Aquaculture
Drives Maine's Economy
(1:58 min)



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyDGj7uw9u8

### Cultural Change in the Era of Covid-19

From Maine CDC recommendations for social distancing and wearing masks, to businesses reconfiguring their spaces to accommodate new needs for health and safety, to the University of Maine and Maine Community College systems plans for safe return to campus, Mainers have ioined together to keep our communities safe. The U.S. has over 5,683,491 confirmed cases of Covid 19 with 176,223 deaths nationwide (cdc.gov, 8.24.20). Under the direction of our governor, Janet Mills, and the Maine CDC Maine is fortunate to have one of the lowest rates of Covid-19 in the country. We have only 3,910 confirmed cases and 131 deaths from Covid-19 statewide, and at 4.8% Washington County has the second lowest case rate in the state (maine.gov, 8.24.20). Wearing masks and extensive cleaning protocols are restrictive for everyone, but these actions save lives. We all look forward to the time when we are safe from this threat, and we thank you for taking personal responsibility to keep our Washington County family, friends, and neighbors safe from Covid-19. All cultures shift and change: those that do this successfully survive. Together we can keep our communities safe and soar past Covid-19 into a brighter future.

# TRIO Study Tip of the Month

## **Course Syllabus: A Roadmap to Success**

As a new college student, you are likely asking yourself:

- What is this course about?
- What am I supposed to be learning?
- What does the teacher expect of me?
- What are the assignments?
- Where are the instructions to do them?
- When are the assignments due?
- When do we have exams?
- What happens if I'm sick or late to class?
- How can I contact the teacher?

All these questions and more are answered on your course syllabus. The syllabus is a map telling you where to go and what you need to do to be successful in a course. It's important to read each course syllabus as soon as classes start, mark due dates on your calendar, and refer to the syllabus whenever you have questions. If you do not find the answer to your questions on the syllabus, then contact your course instructor.

# **Are you Planning to Transfer?**

The Transfer Counselor provides career and transfer counseling to help you maximize your transfer credit. WCCC students have transferred to a variety of programs and schools, such as:

<u>University of Maine</u>: Art, Elementary Education, Electrical Engineering Technology, Mathematics, Psychology <u>University of Maine at Augusta</u>: Business, Early and Elementary Education, Human Services, Nursing <u>University of Maine at Farmington</u>: Early Childhood Education, Alpine Operations

<u>University of Maine at Fort Kent</u>: Conservation Law Enforcement, Nursing

University of Maine at Machias: Business, Education, Psychology & Community Studies, Recreation & Tourism University of Maine at Presque Isle: History, Psychology University of Southern Maine: Tourism & Hospitality Fitchburg State University: Technology Education Husson University: Business Administration, Nursing Michigan University: Environmental Science

New England College: Psychology & Human Services

Purdue University Global: Nursing

St. Joseph's College: Healthcare Administration

University of Arkansas: Nursing

## **Dates to Add to Your Calendar**

#### TRIO Sponsors A Virtual Transfer Fair

Tuesday, October 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Learn about colleges, programs, scholarships, and more. The Transfer Fair will be recorded and posted in the TRIO Student Support Services course on Brightspace for future reference. Look for upcoming announcements with the online address to log into. If you are planning to transfer, it is a good idea to meet with the transfer counselor early in your program to ensure that you are taking the courses that will most benefit you for transfer credit. Pamela Feeney, pfeeney@wccc.me.edu, 207.454.1079.

### FAFSA Application 21-22 Opens October 1

If you need help filling in the FAFSA in October, please contact Financial Aid or seek assistance from your TRIO advisor.

What you need to complete the FAFSA <a href="https://studentaid.gov/help/info-needed">https://studentaid.gov/help/info-needed</a>

Web Address for the FAFSA Application https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

#### Maine Deadline for FAFSA completion May 1

Maine has additional money to distribute to eligible Maine students. Maine State Grants are distributed on a first come first served basis; complete your application as soon as possible after October 1. The Maine deadline for FAFSA completion is May 1.

### FAME: Education – Finance Authority of Maine

The Maine State Grant Program provides need-based grants to Maine undergraduate students. For the 2020–2021 academic year, the maximum grant award is \$1,500.

https://www.famemaine.com/education/topics/filing-the-fafsa/fafsa-

faqs/#:~:text=To%20be%20considered%20for%20a,may%20be%20eligible%20to%20receive.

TRIO WORKS! Come join us. Nicole, Linda, Pam, Liz

