

Submitter: Joseph Anderson  
On Behalf Of: TRiO  
Committee: House Committee On Higher Education  
Measure: HB3120

Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of HB 3120, not only conducting a study but also moving beyond the study and determining that a defined group of colleges could apply TRiO grant funding through Higher Education Coordinating Commission. This grant would not be much different than the lottery funds being legislated to Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC). The legislation that supports OYCC, gives high schools and youth summer programs access to funding through a grant process in Oregon. Although the focus of OYCC is different than the focus of TRiO, using the grant mechanism to allow HECC to fund vital TRiO programs is already an established practice.

Why TRiO? The intention of TRiO was to establish and increase the participation rate of Low Income First Generation students in college education by the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. TRiO programs have endured because of the effectiveness, and funding stability. By the state of Oregon supplementing funding for TRiO, it ensures the continued support for students in reaching high school graduation, excelling in college, and then entering the workforce as a trained and well rounded professional can continue. TRiO is a dynamic educational support for the educational districts in our state.

TRiO students have many faces. Not only are TRiO students the faces of Low Income, and First Generation, but TRiO students are also Veterans of America's Armed Services. All of the TRiO students combined are engaged in making our communities and our world a better place. TRiO students are working to support and create a fabric of America that all people can enjoy and thrive within.

I respectfully request that you look at the data, understand that the TRiO student is a great investment in our communities and our State of Oregon.

With respect,

Joseph O. Anderson