



MEEOA Factbook



2018-2019

Providing College Access & Retention Services to over 15,000 Maine People

IN THIS ISSUE

Inside GEAR UP and TRIO in Maine

Maine Educational Opportunity Association

MEEOA is an association of professionals working within educational opportunity programs, primarily TRIO and GEAR UP. TRIO programs were initially established in 1965 through the Higher Education Act to help low-income & first generation college bound students enter and find success in higher education and to participate more fully in America's economic and social life. While student financial aid programs help students overcome financial barriers to college, TRIO & GEAR UP programs help students overcome class, social, and cultural barriers to higher education. MEEOA works on behalf of students who, because of socioeconomic status, disability, and/or restricted cultural/educational experiences,

find themselves facing significant obstacles to obtaining a college education. MEEOA's primary activities involve: responding to issues affecting the educational resources and environment of low-income and first-generation college students; promoting research, conferences, and professional development activities for personnel of educational opportunity programs; increasing the awareness of legislators, agencies, and community leaders about educational barriers and financial needs of low-income, first-generation, & disabled students through advocacy and public relation; and coordinating efforts among other organizations and people with similar concerns.



Spreading the word of college access
College access and degree attainment for Maine people is a critical topic of discussion for the educational opportunity community. Hear three TRIO professionals describe the initiatives of TRIO and GEAR UP in our schools and larger community!



Celebrating FGEN College Students
As our economy insists more and more upon higher education credentials for the workforce, recognition of the unique fetures of first generation college students is critical to the achivement of Maine people. Join us in celebrating first generation students in Maine institutions!

PROGRAM	SERVED	AWARD
Educational Opportunity Center- University of Maine	2,269	\$749,092
Educational Talent Search		
University of Maine	1,111	\$569,843
University of Maine at Presque Isle	500	\$256,455
GEAR UP-University of Maine Farmington	8,177	\$2,970,042
Student Support Services 2-year		
Central Maine Community College	175	\$309,836
Eastern Maine Community College	150	\$242,136
Kennebec Valley Community College	180	\$313,406
Northern Maine Community College	175	\$272,494
Southern Maine Community College	140	\$242,136
Washington County Community College	160	\$269,295
York County Community College	175	\$254,356
Student Support Services 4-year		
Thomas College	140	\$239,936
University of Maine	400	\$617,696
University of Maine at Augusta	360	\$533,450
University of Maine at Farmington	180	\$313,405
University of Maine at Fort Kent	165	\$317,177
University of Maine at Presque Isle	180	\$331,678
University of Southern Maine	140	\$242,136
Upward Bound		
Bowdoin College (2)	167	\$844,077
University of Maine	60	\$315,155
University of Maine at Farmington (2)	139	\$744,175
University of Maine at Presque Isle (2)	129	\$746,425
University of Southern Maine (2)	127	\$685,758
Upward Bound Math-Science- University of Southern Maine	67	\$366,922
Veterans Upward Bound-University of Southern Maine	125	\$275,155
	15,591	\$13,022,236

MEEOA Annual Events

Annual Conference

Held in January of each year, MEEOA conferences feature a theme and offer valuable networking.

Regional Conference

Throughout New England, April means getting the region together for the NEEOA conference.

COE Policy Seminar

Staying abreast of national happenings and letting our policy makers know about TRIO each March.

Hall of Flags

In this historic hall of Maine's Capitol Building, MEEOA inform lawmakers about what we do!

Maine Emerging Leaders Institute

Leadership development is important to MEEOA professionals to serve Maine's students.

Fair Share

The MEEOA community comes together to help fund the work of educational opportunity.

Professional Development

MEEOA provides excellent opportunities for TRIO and GEAR UP staff to learn new skills.

TRIO Day

TRIO students and professionals engage in acts of service to celebrate how #TRIOWorks.

MEEEOA President Update

2018-2019 MEEEOA President Mary Kate Barbosa

Dear Friends and Supporters of Educational Opportunity,

In 2019, only 46% of Maine residents held education and workforce credentials that move the state, their communities, and their families forward economically. Maine's future clearly depends on increasing the educational attainment of Maine's workers so as to remain competitive and productive and to be able to remain in the state. To that end, Maine's 29 federally funded TRIO and GEAR UP work diligently across the state to provide information, support, and resources to assist over 15,000 Maine residents who are low income, first in their families to go to college, and/or individuals with documented disabilities to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to Masters programs.

Maine is very fortunate to receive over \$13 million dollars of federal funding for TRIO and GEAR UP programs that benefit Maine residents by providing academic support and college preparation, assistance with completing college and financial aid applications, tutoring, personal, career, and financial counseling, study skills, and the confidence to be successful in school, in college, and in the work force. These TRIO programs-Educational Talent Search, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science, Educational Opportunity Center, Veterans' Upward Bound, and Student Support Services- and GEAR UP programs ensure that each young, Maine person and adult has an equal opportunity to prepare for, attend, and graduate from college, not limited by economic status, family background, or disability.

I invite you to learn more about the work of TRIO and GEAR UP programs and read about the success of Maine's students and adults who have been fortunate to be able to participate in TRIO and GEAR UP. The Maine Educational Opportunity Association welcomes your continued support of these vital programs that provide crucial educational opportunities and support for Maine students and adults.



Mary Kate Barbosa

What is TRIO?



Who is served

As mandated by Congress, two-thirds of the students served must come from families with low incomes, and be first generation where neither parent graduated with a bachelors degree.



How is works

Over 1,200 colleges, universities, community colleges and agencies now offer TRIO Programs in the United States and territories. TRIO funds are distributed to institutions through competitive grants.



Evidence of acheivement

Students in TRIO programs are four times more likely to earn an undergraduate degree than those students from similar backgrounds who did not participate in TRIO.



EOC conducts workshops on financial and economic literacy. EOC involves participants in: visits to postsecondary educational institutions; participation in "College Day" activities; and field trips for participants to observe and meet with persons who are employed in various career fields and can act as role models for participants.

Measures of success

The success of the EOC Program is measured by the percentage of low-income, first-generation college students who successfully pursue postsecondary education opportunities

Educational Opportunity Center



Essential services

EOC provides individualized personal, career and academic counseling and assists in the completion of applications for admission for postsecondary education and financial aid.

503

Participants enrolled in post-secondary educational programs

1300+

Participants filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

FUNDING CYCLE

The last Educational Opportunity Center grant competition was held in 2016. The EOC Program grant competition is held every four years. All EOC grants are funded for five-year grant award cycles. The next EOC grant competition will occur in 2020.

EOC Program Description

The Educational Opportunity Centers program provides counseling and information on college admissions to qualified adults who want to enter or continue a program of postsecondary education. The program also provides services to improve the financial and economic literacy of participants. An important objective of the program is to counsel participants on financial aid options, including basic financial planning skills, and to assist in the application process. The goal of the EOC program is to increase the number of adult participants who enroll in postsecondary education institutions.

Where students get Educational Opportunity Center Services in Maine

Presque Isle CareerCenter	Rockland CareerCenter
Calais CareerCenter	Lewiston CareerCenter
Machias CareerCenter	Southern Midcoast CareerCenter
Bangor CareerCenter	Greater Portland CareerCenter
Springvale CareerCenter	Northern Kennebec Valley CareerCenter
Wilton CareerCenter	Parter TRIO program locations
Augusta CareerCenter	Maine Adult & Community Education

Funding and Performance

	Maine	National
FY 2018 Funding	\$749,092	\$51,681,910
# of awards	1	140
# of participants	2,269	193,530
Average award	\$749,092	\$369,157
Average # of participants	2,269	1,382
Cost per participant	\$330	\$267



GEAR UP Maine collaborates with partners to develop strategies to support students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and communities. The program goal is for students to enroll in and persist through their first year of postsecondary education.

Family engagement

Over 40 years of steadily accumulating evidence show that effective Family-School partnering is one of the strongest predictors of children's school success.



The mission

GEAR UP Maine creates, implements, and adjusts a sustainable model for effectively supporting students as they successfully overcome barriers and persist through their first year of postsecondary education.

GEAR UP Program Description

GEAR UP is all about helping Maine students in grades 7-12 be successful in school and enroll in college. We also support students in the first year of their post secondary experience. The Maine State GEAR UP grant was awarded to The University of Maine at Farmington by the U.S. Department of Education. UMF will serve as the award's fiscal agent, with Syntiro, a non-profit based in Readfield, providing the administration. GEAR UP is supported by the grant from the U.S. Department of Education and the contributions of many community partners. We have a unique collaborative partnership with MaineCAN, FAME, and MELMAC, promoting college access throughout the State.

GEAR UP

91%

Graduation rate of GEAR UP students compared to ME avg of 87%

63%

FAFSA completion rate of GEAR UP students compared to ME avg of 60%

Essential Services

Among the GEAR UP services most frequently accessed by students are College Counseling/Advising; Support Services/Tutoring; and Campus Visits. In addition to working with GEAR UP schools, we offer college readiness resources to all of Maine middle and high schools and support statewide initiatives like College Application Week.

Where students get GEAR UP services in Maine

GEAR UP serves students in 25 districts throughout the state in 54 elementary, middle, and high schools in the following communities:

- Aroostook County
- Franklin County
- Hancock County
- Kennebec County
- Oxford County
- Somerset County
- Washington County

Performance

Number of service hours provided	111,000
Students served in grades 7-12	8,177
Students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs)	1,780
Students experiencing homelessness	58

First Generation Student Day

The Center for First-Generation
Student Success

"In 2017, the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) and the Center for First-generation Student Success launched the inaugural First-Generation College Celebration! Given the overwhelming success of this event, COE and the Center will partner to make this celebration an annual event. On November 8, 2019, we encourage colleges and universities to celebrate the success of first-generation college students,



faculty, and staff in any and every way possible. Institutions have held speakers and programs on first-generation student success, hosted lunch and learn events, kicked off mentoring programs, handed out first-gen swag, featured first-generation students on websites, and more!" We encourage policy makers to support

this celebration and consider ways to forge relationships with colleges, universities, and the educational opportunity community to ensure this important work continues!

source:

<https://firstgen.naspa.org/events/2018-first-generation-college-celebration>



Each November 8th, the Educational Opportunity community—including TRIO and GEAR UP--celebrates First Generation Day on the anniversary of the 1965 Higher Education Act.

The FGEN Imperative

Sara Flowers

First generation college students encounter a number of challenges when they embark on their college journey. However, the encouraging news is that they also come with a set of skills and abilities that make them both unique and valuable to their campus communities. In higher education, we use strange words like 'bursar,' 'syllabus,' and 'rubric,' while our first generation college students bring assets to campus like grit, ambition, and resourcefulness. "First generation" means that neither of the student's parents have completed a baccalaureate degree thereby increasing the likelihood that college-going beliefs and behaviors were not demonstrated in their childhood homes.

Making sure that FGENs receive the proper support is imperative to our goal of increasing the college degree attainment of Maine people while also creating opportunities for them to stay in Maine. How do we achieve this? First, every one of us in the community who is a first generation college degree earner can call it out loud and proud. Industry professionals, educators, law makers, community leaders—we can all be a part of this visible community and ensure that campuses, communities, and policies are designed with support of FGENs in mind. Consider participating in a local event on November 8th and start including in your introduction if you are an FGEN when engaging in the good work of educational opportunity!



Maine Calling is an interactive radio program hosted by Jennifer Rooks and Keith Shortall that airs live Monday through Friday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., rebroadcast at 8 p.m. (7 p.m. on Fridays). The show brings interesting conversations on a wide variety of topics to the people of Maine.

Hear the recorded broadcast at www.tinyURL.com/MaineCallingTRIO

College Readiness: Programs that Help High School Students Who Need Extra Help Preparing for College

NPR Maine Public March 19, 2019

"Many Maine students are unprepared for post-secondary school (college) but fortunately there are programs to help them. A 2013 news report found that 12 percent of students entering the University of Maine system – and 50 percent of all students entering Maine community colleges, needed remedial classes. TRIO is one of the oldest programs in the country to prepare low-income kids for college. Bowdoin is a leader in this area with its Up ward Bound programs. Our panel will discuss these programs." Panelists Karen Keim, director of the University of Maine Orono Educational Opportunity Center and Educational Talent Search; Lynn

Ploof Davis, director of the University of Maine Farmington Student Support Services and Upward Bound; and Katherine Lualdi, director of Southern Maine Community College Student Support Services discuss the contributions of educational opportunity in Maine and how the TRIO and GEAR UP programs increase access to higher education for Maine people. These leaders engage a discussion of the importance of first generation students, informed practices for a TRIO-eligible population, and ways that Maine innovation holds promise for more collaboration increasing higher education access and achievement.

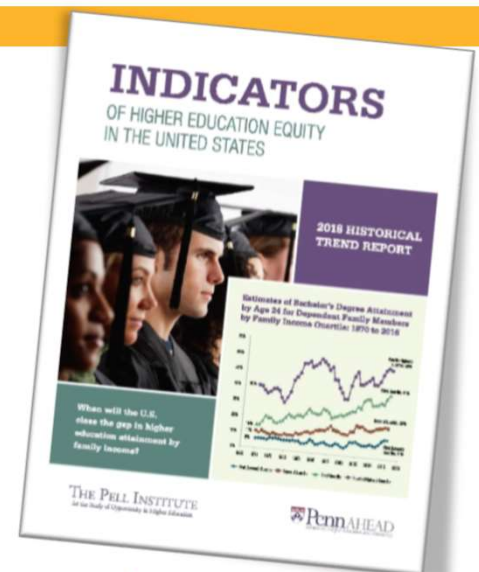
2018 Historical Trend Report

The Pell Institute

"The original stated mission of the U.S. Department of Education, as adopted under President Jimmy Carter in the late 1970s, reflected a civil rights focus. Simply stated the mission of the Department was to "ensure equal access to education." This historical trend report series and the associated essays have drawn inspiration from this original mission statement and from a number of other historical statements concerning equal access to education. In this introduction to the 2018 report, we briefly review some of these articulations to

highlight the current challenges pertaining to equity in higher education.

1.) The Dangers of a Higher Educational System that Functions to Sort Students, 2.) Higher Education as an International Human Right, 3.) A Question of Will, and 4.) Defining Equity of Higher Education Opportunity. We operationalize "equity" in terms of deviation from a distribution that would indicate "equal access to education." For example, we observe differences across quartiles or quintiles of family income in the percentages of students entering college and receiving bachelor's degrees. We also observe the extent to which the racial/ethnic distribution of the composition of the U.S. population differs from the racial/ethnic distribution of degree recipients. The equity indicators tracked in this report address the following fundamental questions: Who enrolls in postsecondary education? What type of



postsecondary educational institution do students attend? Does financial aid eliminate the financial barriers to paying college costs? How do students in the United States pay for college? How do educational attainment rates and early outcomes vary by family characteristics? How does educational attainment in the U.S. compare with other countries?"

Read the whole report at <http://pellinstitute.org/indicators/>

TRIO

UPWARD BOUND

Measures of success

The success of the UB Program is measured by the percentage of low-income, first-generation college students who successfully pursue and complete postsecondary education.



UBMS projects must provide intensive instruction in mathematics and science, including hands-on experience in laboratories, in computer facilities, and at field-sites.

Upward Bound & UB Math-Science



Essential services

A regular UB project must provide participants with a summer instructional component that is designed to stimulate a college-going experience for participants.

99%

UB student retention in secondary education leading to graduation

91%

Upward Bound Students with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher

FUNDING CYCLE

The last Upward Bound & Math-Science grant competitions were held in 2017. The UB[MS] Program grant competitions are held every four years. All UB[MS] grants are funded for five-year grant award cycles. The next UB[MS] grant competitions will occur in 2021.

UB Program Description

The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and in their higher education pursuits. UB serves: high school students from low-income families; and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education. The UB Math-Science program is designed to strengthen the math and science skills of participating students. The goal of the program is to help students recognize and develop their potential to excel in math and science and to encourage them to pursue postsecondary degrees and careers in math and science.

Where students get Upward Bound & Math-Science Services in Maine

- University of Southern Maine (2 programs)
- University of Maine at Presque Isle (2 programs)
- University of Maine at Farmington (2 programs)
- Bowdoin College (2 programs)
- University of Maine at Orono (1 Upward Bound, 1 UB Math-Science)

Funding and Performance

	UB ME	National	UBMS ME	National
FY 2018 Funding	\$3,335,590	\$355,592,015	\$366,922	\$67,687,618
# of awards	9	967	1	212
# of participants	622	70,914	67	13,184
Average award	\$370,621	\$367,727	\$366,922	\$319,281
Avg # of participants	69	73	67	62
Cost per participant	\$5,363	\$5,014	\$5,476	\$5,134

TRIO

TALENT SEARCH



ETS identifies qualified youths with potential for education at the postsecondary level and encourages them to complete secondary school and undertake a program of postsecondary education

Measures of success

The success of each Talent Search project is based on whether it provided services to at least the required number of participants each year, and whether it met its annual objectives.

Educational Talent Search



Essential services

Students must participate in a rigorous program of study during secondary school, enroll in postsecondary education, and complete postsecondary education.

79%

ETS students who enrolled in post secondary educational programs

110

Seniors who attained a secondary degree credential

FUNDING CYCLE

The last Educational Talent Search grant competition was held in 2016. The ETS Program grant competition is held every four years. All ETS grants are funded for five-year grant award cycles. The next ETS grant competition will occur in 2020.

ETS Program Description

The Talent Search program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. The program publicizes the availability of financial aid and assist participant with the postsecondary application process. Talent Search also encourages persons who have not completed education programs at the secondary or postsecondary level to enter or reenter and complete postsecondary education. The goal of Talent Search is to increase the number of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in and complete their postsecondary education.

Where students get Talent Search Services in Maine

Searsmont High School	Regional School Unit #20 Schools
Nokomis High School	Regional School Unit #19 Schools
Oxford Hills Comprehensive HS	School Administrative District #17
Lewiston High School	Lewiston Public Schools
Lake Region High School	Lake Region School District
Central High School	Regional School Unit #64 Schools
Caribou High School	Regional School Unit #39 Schools

Funding and Performance

	Maine	National
FY 2018 Funding	\$826,298	\$158,260,406
# of awards	2	473
# of participants	1,611	309,905
Average award	*	\$334,589
Average # of participants	*	655
Cost per participant	\$513	\$511

* N-value too low for accurate averaging

TRIO

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES



2-year SSS provides activities designed to assist students enrolled in two-year institutions of higher education in applying for admission to, and obtaining financial assistance for enrollment in, a four-year program of postsecondary education; and peer and professional tutoring, remedial instruction, and peer mentoring.

Measures of success

The success of the SSS Program is measured by the postsecondary persistence and degree completion rates of SSS participants that remain at the grantee institution.



Essential services

SSS provides tutoring; help in postsecondary course selection; information on financial aid programs; help in applying for admission and financial aid for graduate programs.

Student Support Services

90%

Maine SSS students in Good Academic Standing

84%

Maine SSS students who graduated or persisted

FUNDING CYCLE

The last Student Support Services grant competition was held in 2015. The SSS Program grant competition is held every four years. All SSS grants are funded for five-year grant award cycles. The next SSS grant competition will occur in 2019.

SSS Program Description

Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education. Student Support Services (SSS) projects also may provide grant aid to current SSS participants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants (# 84.063). The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants.

Where students get Student Support Services in Maine

Central Maine Community College	Thomas College
Eastern Maine Community College	University of Maine
Kennebec Valley Community College	University of Maine at Augusta
Northern Maine Community College	University of Maine Farmington
Southern Maine Community College	University of Maine at Fort Kent
Washington County Community College	University of Maine at Presque Isle
York County Community College	University of Southern Maine

Funding and Performance

	Maine	National
FY 2018 Funding	\$4,499,137	\$322,608,056
# of awards	14	1,069
# of participants	2,720	202,880
Average award	\$321,367	\$301,785
Average # of participants	194	190
Cost per participant	\$1,654	\$1,590

TRIO

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND



VUB conducts individual participant needs assessment; develops participant Individual Education Plan; provides information and counseling on college selection; and assists through preparation for college entrance examinations, and cultural enrichment activities.

Measures of success

The success of the VUB Program is measured by the percentage of low-income, first-generation college students who successfully pursue and complete postsecondary education.



Essential services

VUB provides academic instruction in reading, writing, math, science, foreign languages and other subjects as needed; help in course selection; help with college admissions applications; and information on financial aid.

Veterans Upward Bound

64

Veterans served in college preparation, planning, and enrollment

16

All 16 counties of Maine are eligible for USM's VUB services

FUNDING CYCLE

The last Veterans Upward Bound grant competition was held in 2018. The VUB Program grant competition is held every four years. All VUB grants are funded for five-year grant award cycles. The next VUB grant competition will occur in 2022.

VUB Program Description

Veterans Upward Bound is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of postsecondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and complete postsecondary education programs.

Where students get Veterans Upward Bound Services in Maine

Veterans all over the state of Maine are eligible for USM Veteran's Upward Bound Services. Veterans interested in getting involved may contact USM directly or get in touch with any TRIO program at a local campus or center offering TRIO services in their community for more information.

Funding and Performance

	Maine	National
FY 2018 Funding	\$275,155	\$18,384,370
# of awards	1	62
# of participants	125	8,157
Average award	\$275,155	\$296,522
Average # of participants	125	132
Cost per participant	\$2,201	\$2,254

MEEOA Member Programs

Bowdoin College

Upward Bound
Bridget Mullin
bmullen@bowdoin.edu

Central Maine Community College

Student Support Services
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Veterans' Upward Bound
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Student Support Services
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York County Community College

Student Support Services
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*Find more contact details
and links at
<http://www.meeoa.org>*

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