

ELIGIBILITY

Opportunity Scholars Program (Student Support Services, a division of TRiO) is a federally funded grant program which provides services to increase retention and graduation of first-generation students. At least two-thirds of the program participants enrolled must be first-generation college students and have a financial and academic need. The remaining one-third may be either first-generation or have a financial need or a disability. First-generation college students means that neither parent or guardian has completed a four-year degree. If you fit the definition of a first-generation college student, you may be eligible for Opportunity Scholars.

First generation college student means—

- (1) A student neither of whose natural or adoptive parents received a baccalaureate degree;
- (2) A student who, prior to the age of 18, regularly resided with and received support from only one parent and whose supporting parent did not receive a baccalaureate degree; or
- (3) An individual who, prior to the age of 18, did not regularly reside with or receive support from a natural or an adoptive parent.

RESERVATIONS

Open enrollment is held during the first two weeks of the Fall and Spring semester. Come by the TRiO Learning Resource Center to pick up an application or complete the one on your flash drive which you will receive during orientation.

Everything on our menu is free of charge to all OSP participants.

***Follow the [D.E.F.I.N.E](#) and [Omega Scholars](#) on Facebook at USCL [D.E.F.I.N.E](#) or USCL [Omega Scholars](#).**



The Student Support Services program is a federally funded program that provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of their post-secondary education. The goal of the Student Support Services program—OSP—at USC Lancaster is to increase college retention and graduation rates and facilitate the process of learning from one level of education to the next. OSP is a great way to network with other college students and make lasting connections that are a valuable part of the college experience. We serve 160 first generation, low income and disabled students annually. TRiO programs are funded 100 percent by the US Department of Education.

USCL OSP STAFF

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Opportunity Scholars Program



MENU OF SERVICES

TRiO Programs at USCL
Medford Library
PO Box 889
Lancaster, SC 29721
<http://sc.edu/lancaster/osp>

APPETIZERS

Early Start

Early Start is an intensive 3 week summer program designed to assist incoming first year students in making a smooth transition from high school to college. Students earn four (4) credit hours.

New Student Orientation

Each semester, we hold a new student orientation for our incoming OSP students. During orientation, you will learn more about OSP and will complete any paperwork needed to finalize your admission into the program.

ENTREES

Career Assessments

The Strong Interest Inventory and Myers Briggs Type Indicator are assessment tools that help identify interests and personality characteristics that provide the understanding needed to select the best major and career path. After taking the online assessments, you will meet with the Project Coordinator to go over the results.

Lunch N Learn Workshops

A series of informal 45 minute workshops developed to help students improve their study skills, familiarize themselves with campus resources, and develop effective social skills.

Computer Lab

The TRiO Learning Resource Center provides state-of-the-art computers, and printers for student use. OSP students are also given free internet access and an e-mail account. Many students use the TLRC as their place to study and work on course assignments.

Academic Advising

The Project Coordinator is available by appointment to assist you in planning your schedule and helping you during the semester if you are having trouble in a course. Once you have met with the Project Coordinator for advising assistance, you will be referred to your assigned academic advisor for follow-up review and to remove your advising hold if needed.

HOUSE FAVORITES

Academic Performance Monitoring

The OSP Project Coordinator closely monitors each student's schedule, course work, grades, etc. during each semester. The Project Coordinator works closely with college professors to ensure that each OSP participant is successfully passing and completing course work. In the event that the student is experiencing difficulties in a class, a plan of action is developed with the student to overcome those obstacles

Counseling Services

The Project Coordinator works closely with participants to make sure they are having a smooth semester and can assist with the following while also referring you to other campus professionals in these fields as needed:

Financial Aid Counseling
Career Counseling
Transfer Counseling
Personal Counseling

A LA CARTE

Ask an OSP staff member for a listing of dates and current workshop titles. Lunch-N-Learn workshops are held throughout the semester. Some past topics include:

Career Planning
Decision Making
Filling Out Your FAFSA
Goal Setting
Job Search Skills
Money Management
Note Taking
Stress Management
Test Anxiety
Time Management

TAKE OUT

The following USC Lancaster programs offer vital resources for OSP students:

Academic Success Center
Medford Library
Counseling Center

DESSERT SPECIALS

Summer School Grant Aid

Supplemental grant for students to attend a class during the summer sessions. Additional criteria apply.

Graduate Medallions

OSP graduates are awarded a silver medallion during commencement to represent their achievement.

Five Days of Christmas

A fun way to wrap up the fall semester before winter break: from movies to music and yummy food.

Spring Stress Free Zone

Refreshments and a break from Spring Finals

Text Book Loan Program

We have select text books available for our students to utilize in the TRiO Learning Resource Center.

The OSPy Awards

Our end of the year awards banquet which always has a theme.

Leadership Forums

Throughout the academic year, these provide opportunities for students to develop or share their leadership skills.

***Omega Scholars**

Provides mentoring, academic support, and higher educational opportunities to male students.

***D.E.F.I.N.E**

Provides mentoring, academic support and higher educational opportunities to female students.

