

TRiO Student Support and Retention Services Program

Support program helps students from groups traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education improve their chances of graduating from college

The goal of Highline College's TRiO program is to increase persistence, graduation and transfer rates of its participants. TRiO provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and motivates students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education. Program participants are first-generation students, students from low-income households or those with a disability. [Learn more at trio.highline.edu](https://trio.highline.edu).

Factoids

at a
glance

- Funded by U.S. Department of Education grant (CFDA #84.042)
- Initial grant funded in 2010
- Current 5-year, \$1.1 million grant ends 2020
- 621 students have been served

Who Are TRiO Students at Highline College?

2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR

30

age of
average
participant

18

age of
youngest
participant

64

age of
oldest
participant

37%

students
from refugee
families

62%

women

88%

students
of color

Students Succeed With TRiO Program

2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR

	Grant Objectives	TRiO Outcomes
Graduation rate (4-year rate)	29%	45%
Transfer rate (4-year rate)	20%	37%
Persistence rate (fall 2017 to fall 2018)	55%	92%
Good academic standing (≥ 2.5 cumulative GPA)	74%	84%



MEET Seoyeon Jo

Originally from Korea, Seoyeon Jo came to the U.S. in 2012 after being adopted by a family who had emigrated from Korea ten years earlier. "Learning everything new, including language and culture, was challenging," recalls Seoyeon.

Her early college experience was rough. "I felt alone and like I couldn't find community. During my second year at Highline, I met TRiO students in a biology course."

Meeting these students prompted her to join TRiO, where "for the first time I felt like I belonged."

Through TRiO, Seoyeon met new people by participating in campus events, built connections with counselors, and found new opportunities. "TRiO changed my life."

"TRiO counselors not only helped me to plan out my schedule but they were willing to listen to my stories, to understand what I was through, and they tried to give me honest and realistic feedback."

She is pursuing an associate of science in pre-nursing with plans on earning a bachelor of science in nursing, with the long-term goal of becoming a licensed nurse practitioner.

"With my knowledge about the healthcare community, I want to help families, mostly those who have low income or no insurance, so that they have easier access when they need to be diagnosed and treated for their illnesses."



HIGHLINE
COLLEGE

TRiO
Student Support and Retention Services