

Mark Thomas

From: Audrey Neal <aneal@murraystate.edu>
Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2020 10:13 AM
To: Mark Thomas; Kinney, Deatrik
Subject: MSU Talent Search grant application -- next steps
Attachments: letter of commitment.docx

Good morning!

Thank you for your interest in joining us for the 2021-2026 TRIO Talent Search grant cycle. As I mentioned in my previous email, our staff is currently writing the grant proposal, and your assistance in helping us to gather necessary data is crucial.

TASK #1: I have attached a sample Letter of Commitment. We are required to have a Letter of Commitment for the DISTRICT on hand when we submit our grant application. These letters will be summarized in the grant application.

Please submit a Letter of Commitment on school letterhead signed by the district superintendent by October 16, 2020. This can be faxed to Audrey Neal at 270-809-5761 or scanned and emailed to aneal@murraystate.edu.

TASK #2: The link below takes you to a form that collects essential information on persistence, postsecondary enrollment, rigorous curriculum, and tutoring/mentoring initiatives for each of your high schools in the district. We understand that you are busy, but this information is required for the grant application and is not readily available from other sources.

<https://form.jotform.com/202676630845056>

We respectfully request that you have the form completed by October 30, 2020.

Thank you for your cooperation in these matters. I am looking forward to a successful grant application and five great years of working to serve the students in western KY.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Audrey Neal

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Talent Search, KY & MO
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Murray, KY 42071
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TRIO TALENT SEARCH

at Murray State University

The Talent Search program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. The program provides academic, career, and financial counseling to its participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue on to and complete their postsecondary education. The program publicizes the availability of financial aid and assists participants with the postsecondary application process. Talent Search works with students in grades 6-12 at participating target schools.

Participating schools are asked to make the following commitments for participation in the 2021-2026 funding cycle:

STUDENT ACCESS

Academic Coordinators will be allowed to meet with participants in each grade level once a month during the school day to conduct curriculum activities.

All participants will be allowed to attend a workshop or campus visit once per semester during the school day.

STUDENT RECRUITMENT

Academic Coordinators will be provided with access to the entire student body on a weekly basis to recruit applicants for the program in August and January.

The school will disseminate applications and other program information through email, social media, and physical handouts provided by the program.

STUDENT RECORDS

Academic Coordinators will be provided with access to quarterly grade and attendance reports for all participants for academic advising purposes. Yearly transcripts will be provided for all participants as required by Federal grant regulations. Parents and students will sign a release form providing permission for access to these materials.

Academic Coordinators will be provided with read-only access to participant information in Infinite Campus.

DISTRICT RESOURCES

Academic Coordinators will be provided with office space for 1-2 days each week so that they can be accessible to program participants as needed. This includes wifi access for a Talent Search-provided laptop and access to a printer/copier.

The school will provide the use of a bus and bus driver when available for campus visits and/or workshops. This expense will be reimbursed to the district by Talent Search.

COLLABORATION

School administration will assist in the formation of a College Access Team (CAT) for each school to bring together all college access program personnel for meetings in August and January. The purpose of these meetings will be to plan and collaborate on each semester's activities in order to maximize all program services and resources.

MS & HS PARTICIPATION

College access work is most effective when programs are able to begin with students in middle school. We request that all schools in your district with students in grades 6-12 participate in the program. This will help us to carry larger middle school participant numbers to account for high school attrition as students transition to other TRIO programs such as Upward Bound or Upward Bound Math and Science or leave the program for other reasons.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

We will contact you in early November to secure a Memorandum of Understanding, which we must have on hand when we submit our grant proposal in December. Funding notification should occur in late summer 2021. Once funding has been secured, our Project Director will meet with district administrators to discuss this commitment and to work out specific details as they apply to each school system in the district.

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Talent Search

What is Talent Search?

Talent Search (TS) at Murray State University is a federal grant program funded by the US Department of Education. The purpose of TS is to increase the number of students from disadvantaged backgrounds who successfully graduate from secondary school and enroll in and graduate from postsecondary education.

- A student with the potential for academic success and the desire to further your education

Students must meet certain ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. These include:

- Citizenship – Students must be US citizens or provide proof of permanent residency.
- Income – Preference is given to students whose family income meets federal guidelines.
- First-generation college status – Preference is given to students whose parents do not have a 4-year college degree.

Students who do not meet the income or first-generation criteria may still be eligible for participation in the program, based on the availability of open positions in the program and a demonstrated need for program services.

TS is required to gather certain information, such as income verification. Federal law requires that all information remains confidential.

Program Services

TS Academic Coordinators work collaboratively with school administrators, counselors, teachers, and community organizations to provide services to students throughout the school year. These services include:

- academic tutoring services, which may include instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics, science, and other subjects
- advice and assistance in secondary course selection
- assistance in preparing for college entrance examinations and completing college admission applications
- information on the full range of Federal student financial aid programs and benefits (including Federal Pell Grant awards and loan forgiveness) and resources for locating public and private scholarships
- assistance in completing financial aid applications, including the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- guidance on and assistance in secondary school reentry, alternative education programs for secondary school, and entry into general educational development (GED) programs or postsecondary education
- financial literacy education for students and families
- personal and career counseling
- career exploration
- campus visits and cultural events
- workshops and counseling for families
- mentoring programs

Apply now

- [Download and print the 2020-21 application](#)
- [Apply online](#)

Contact our Main Office

256 Blackburn Science Building

Murray, KY 42071

Phone: 270.809.3526

Toll Free: 800.669.7654

Fax: 270.809.5761

Follow us on Social Media

Talent Search Program Murray State



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@MSUTalentSearch



TRiO_Tsearch

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY:

Talent Search (TS) is located within the division of Student Affairs at Murray State University. TS does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in the provision of services, educational programs, and activities. TS will provide, upon request, reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities and an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. The administration maintains an open door policy for any student who feels subjection to racial harassment or discrimination. These students are urged to contact the Office of Student Affairs or the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Access, both of which are located in Wells Hall.

Murraystateuniv	Directory
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@Murraystateuniv	Libraries
@Murraystateuniv	Campus Map
Murraystateuniv	Printable Map
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	Regional Campuses
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