Need for GEAR UP and TRIO

Education that Works
The decreased demand for traditional Maine jobs such as logging, shoe manufacturing, fishing, and farming is being replaced by jobs that demand higher levels of education. For the many Maine residents living in severe poverty, activities that allow them to prepare for this changing society are crucial. Maine’s TRIO and GearUP programs provide such activities and preparation.

Maine’s GEAR UP and TRIO programs work with students across the state to prepare them for joining the Maine workforce. Youth programs include the Educational Talent Search (grades 6-12), GEAR UP (grades 7-12), and Upward Bound (grades 9-12). Adult programs include the Educational Opportunity Center (adults aged 19 and over) and Student Support Services (college students at sponsoring postsecondary institutions.)

By removing the barriers faced by families with low-income and low educational attainment, TRIO programs in Maine help break the cycle of poverty. Increasing the educational attainment of this population not only strengthens Maine’s educated workforce, but it also reduces dependence on welfare systems. Thus, Maine’s GEAR UP and TRIO programs are a vital part of economic growth in Maine.

“Just 25 percent of Maine adults ages 25 to 64 hold bachelor’s degrees, compared with 35 percent of all New Englanders. In some rural Maine counties, only 15 percent of working-age adults hold four-year degrees.”


Why GEAR UP and TRIO?

GEAR UP and TRIO programs work to break the cycle of poverty by enabling low-income, first generation students to access and succeed in postsecondary education.

For more information visit:
www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/index.html
www2.ed.gov/programs/gearup/index.html
History
Collectively, these college access programs are referred to as “Federal TRIO Programs.” Upward Bound was the first to be created in 1964 by the Economic Opportunity Act. Educational Talent Search was established by the Higher Education Act of 1965 and a 1968 Amendment added Student Support Services. Subsequent Amendments in 1972, 1976, 1986 and 1990 added Educational Opportunity Centers, The Training Program for Special Programs Staff and Leadership Personnel, the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement; and Upward Bound Math-Science -- but the “TRIO” name continued. The legislative requirements for the TRIO programs can be found in the Higher Educational Act of 1965, as amended, Title IV, Subpart 4.

Purpose
The primary purpose of TRIO programs is to prepare underserved persons for successful entry into, retention in, and completion of postsecondary education. These programs identify low income and potential first generation college students and provide them with encouragement, support, and assistance to help them achieve their educational goals.

Service
TRIO services are designed to improve academic performance, increase student motivation, and facilitate transitions from one level of education to the next.

“Some of my favorite things about TRIO include having an extra academic advisor, free printing, and all the special events, activities, and stress busters they plan. They are really there to support you through college! I probably could not have achieved as much as I have during my college career without them - they’re like a second family.”

Blair Pelletier
UMFK Class of 2013

MEEOA President Update
Dear Friends and Supporters of Educational Opportunity,
As a new year begins, it allows us time to reflect on the power in the work we do, but more importantly to celebrate the success of our students and recognize the impact we have on Maine communities.

In Maine, we are fortunate to have 26 federally funded GEAR UP and TRIO programs. In 2015, Maine was fortunate to gain three new Student Support Services programs at Thomas College, Eastern Maine Community College and Southern Maine Community College. Access to the critical, life-changing services provided by TRIO and GEAR UP not only increases opportunities for Maine students to access higher education, but allows those who graduate to nurture the skills needed to compete in todays economy.

In a speech, President Obama shared, “In a single generation we have fallen from first place to 12th place in college graduation rates.” He went on to highlight, “The way to move forward is to put education first.” This is why TRIO and GEAR UP Programs are necessary and our work so important. 2016 will require our continued dedication to guiding our students toward higher educational opportunities.

Please take the time to learn more about the work we do and read about the success of our students. We welcome your continued support of all educational opportunities programming for Maine students.

Teri Morse, President
2016, Maine Educational Opportunity Association
# Maine's TRIO Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRIO Program:</th>
<th>Participant Eligibility</th>
<th>Applicant / Funding Process</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educational Opportunity Center</strong></td>
<td>Serves individuals age 19 or above who have expressed an interest in pursuing postsecondary education and are in need of project services. If services of Educational Talent Search are not available in target area, persons under 19 may be served.</td>
<td>Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition will be completed in spring 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educational Talent Search</strong></td>
<td>Serves students in selected target area between the ages of 11 and 27 who have completed at least five years of elementary education.</td>
<td>Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition was completed in winter 2016. The next expected competition is in 2021.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Support Services</strong></td>
<td>Serves students who are enrolled/ accepted in a sponsoring postsecondary institution, have an established need for academic assistance and are low income, first generation, and/or physically disabled.</td>
<td>Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition was completed in 2015. The next competition is expected in 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upward Bound</strong></td>
<td>Serves students in selected target area between 13 and 19 who have completed 8th grade, are planning to go to college and need services to progress successfully to postsecondary program.</td>
<td>Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition was completed in Summer 2012. The next expected competition is in 2016-17.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upward Bound Math-Science</strong></td>
<td>Serves students between 13 and 19, in 9th or 10th grade, who are planning to go to college, have an interest in and aptitude for careers in math and science, and need the services in order to fulfill their goals.</td>
<td>Competitions are held every five years. Second through fifth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application. The most recent competition was completed in Summer 2012. The next expected competition is in 2016-17.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Notable results from Recent Grant Competitions

- **SSS competition in 2015** - All existing SSS grants in Maine were refunded and three new grants were funded, at Eastern Maine Community College, Southern Maine Community College, and Thomas College.

- **GearUP competition in 2014** - Syntiro Corporation received a GearUP grant in partnership with the University of Maine Farmington, serving 27 school districts.

- **ETS competition in 2016** - The ETS competition in 2016 closed February 4th. Award notices are expected in the summer of 2016.

- **EOC competition in 2016** - The EOC competition closes April 4th. Award notices are expected in the summer of 2016.

- **UB Competition in 2012** - Six of seven existing grants were refunded and one new grant was funded at the University of Maine Farmington. The grant at the University of Maine did not receive funding.

- **UBMS competition in 2012** - The existing grant at the University of Maine was refunded.
# TRIO Projects in Maine

## Program Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Location</th>
<th># Students Served</th>
<th>$ Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educational Opportunity Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine</td>
<td>2,269</td>
<td>$680,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Talent Search</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine</td>
<td>1,111</td>
<td>$510,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine at Presque Isle</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>$230,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Educational Talent Search Projects</td>
<td>1,611</td>
<td>$740,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Support Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Maine Community College</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>$281,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Maine Community College</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennebec Valley Community College</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>$226,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Maine Community College</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>$247,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Maine Community College</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas College</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>$218,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>$561,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine at Augusta</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>$484,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine at Farmington</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>$284,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine at Fort Kent</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>$288,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine at Presque Isle</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>$301,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Southern Maine</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington County Community College</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>$244,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York County Community College</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>$231,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Student Support Services Projects</td>
<td>2,715</td>
<td>$4,087,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upward Bound</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowdoin College</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>$444,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine at Farmington (2 separate projects)</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>$603,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine at Presque Isle (2 separate projects)</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>$605,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Southern Maine (2 separate projects)</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>$550,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Upward Bound Projects</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>$2,203,560</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Upward Bound Math-Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Location</th>
<th># Students Served</th>
<th>$ Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>$297,034</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## TRIO Projects in Maine

- **Participants Funded to Serve:** 7,164
- **Total Federal TRIO Funding:** $8,009,282
Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) programs provide assistance and information to adults who seek to enter or re-enter a program of postsecondary education.

“Amanda

I had gone beyond my original goal to graduate from the University of Maine at Augusta with an AS in Mental Health and Human Services. MEOC was such an important part of my connection to my college career. Marty Kelley was the reason I felt I could pursue my goals because she believed in my abilities. I went on to pursue a BA in Mental Health when I didn’t even think in the beginning I would be able to make it two years! MEOC not only helped me get connected with the right college and program, but also assisted in the FAFSA process each year.

In January 2015, Amanda was a recipient of the Maine Educational Opportunity Association’s Rising Star Award.

“It is very important to me that people know about MEOC. It is a valuable resource to help people achieve their educational goals like I did!”

Funding and Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Funding for Maine</th>
<th>National Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Awards</td>
<td>Number of Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Participants</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Award</td>
<td>Total # of Students Served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$680,609</td>
<td>189,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost per Participant</td>
<td>Average Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$369,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average # of Participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost per Participant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$246</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Performance Outcomes
Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in November 2014.

In 2015:
- 645 Maine Educational Opportunity Center participants enrolled in college.
- MEOC assisted 1,196 participants in applying for their FAFSA.

Since 1991 the Maine Educational Opportunity Center
- Placed more than 15,600 adults in college.
- Assisted more than 44,750 Maine adults in exploring college and career options.

Funding Cycle
The EOC grant competition is currently underway, with grants due April 4, 2016. Award notifications are expected in Summer 2016.
The Educational Talent Search (ETS) program identifies at risk youth who have the desire and potential for success in postsecondary education. The primary goal of ETS is to successfully encourage participants to enroll in postsecondary education.

“I am thankful for being a participant in the Talent Search program during my high school years, it helped me to really realize that becoming an educator was the right path for me.”

### Funding and Performance

#### Current Funding for Maine

- **740,255** was awarded in FY 2015
  - **# of Awards**: 2
  - **Total # of Participants**: 1,611
  - **Average Grant Award**: $370,128
  - **Average # of Participants**: 806
  - **Average Cost per Participant**: $460

#### National Funding

- **$134.5 Million** was awarded in FY 2015
  - **Number of Awards**: 449
  - **Total # of Students Served**: 310,199
  - **Average Awards**: $299,600
  - **Average # of Participants**: 691
  - **Cost per Participant**: $434

#### Performance Outcomes

Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in November 2015.

In 2015:
- 83% of ETS seniors graduated having completed a rigorous program of study.
- 84% of ETS seniors enrolled in postsecondary education.

Since 1977 Maine Educational Talent Search programs have assisted more than 10,350 Maine Youth enroll in college.

#### Funding Cycle

The ETS grant competition is currently underway, with grants due February 4, 2016. Award notifications are expected in Summer 2016.

Julie

I am a 2010 graduate from the University of Maine at Presque Isle with a Bachelors in Elementary Education and a minor in Special Education. I truly enjoyed my schooling there as well as the courses I was able to take, it was a very friendly campus and a memorable experience. Education has always been a love and passion of mine so once I completed my Bachelors degree, and taking a year off, I began working on my Masters degree in Elementary Education: Curriculum, Evaluation and Assessment through the University of Maine at Orono online. I am currently halfway through this degree and plan on completing it soon, I felt that there was so much more I could learn to help my future students. I am currently an Ed tech III and have been in this and other similar positions for the last 5 years which has allowed me to work with many different students in many different grades and classrooms. I have to say that I am thankful for being a participant in the Talent Search program during my high school years, it helped me to really realize that becoming an educator was the right path for me and I am grateful to have followed this dream.
Funding and Performance

**Current Funding for Maine**
$4.09 Million was awarded in FY2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Awards</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Participants</td>
<td>2,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Award</td>
<td>$291,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average # of Participants</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost per Participant</td>
<td>$1,506</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**National Funding**
$297.26 Million was awarded in FY 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Awards</td>
<td>1,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Students Served</td>
<td>205,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Awards</td>
<td>$274,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average # of Participants</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost per Participant</td>
<td>$1,448</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Performance Outcomes**
Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in Fall 2015.

In 2015, based on surveyed SSS programs:
- 90% of Maine Student Support Service Participants were in Academic Good Standing.
- 84% of Maine Student Support Service Participants graduated or persisted to the next year.

**Funding Cycle**
The last SSS grant competition was held in 2015. At the time, the existing eleven SSS programs were refunded and three new program were awarded, at: Eastern Maine Community College, Southern Maine Community College, and Thomas College. The next SSS competition is anticipated in 2020.
Upward Bound (UB) Programs generate skills and motivation necessary for success in education beyond high school. Participants are currently enrolled in high school, low income and/or potential first generation, and willing to prepare themselves for entry into postsecondary education.

“A life-changing transformational metamorphosis. This aptly depicts my interaction with the University of Maine Upward Bound TRIO program.”

Funding and Performance

Current Funding for Maine
$2.2 million was awarded in FY 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Awards</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Awards</td>
<td>$314,794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average # of Participants</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Cost per Participant</td>
<td>$4,390</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Funding
$263.41 Million was awarded in FY 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Awards</td>
<td>813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Students Served</td>
<td>61,361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Awards</td>
<td>$324,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average # of Participants</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost per Participant</td>
<td>$4,293</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Performance Outcomes
Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in Fall 2015.

In 2014:
• Maine Upward Bound programs served 504 eligible students.
• 82.6% of Maine Upward Bound students enrolled in post-secondary education.
• 86.5% of Maine Upward Bound students held a GPA of 2.5 or greater.

Funding Cycle
The last UB grant competition was held in Winter 2012. At the time, Maine was awarded 7 UB programs, one new and six renewals. There was also one program that did not receive renewal funding. The next competition is expected in 2016-17.
Upward Bound Math-Science strengthens the math and science education of participating students, assists them in demonstrating competency and encourages them to pursue postsecondary degrees in math and science fields.

“Being a part of Upward Bound Math Science program helped me to improve in these subjects and go on to a related career.”

Christina
Math and science were never my strong suits in school. When I started UBMS, I was slightly intimidated and fearful that I would lag behind. Being a part of Upward Bound Math & Science program helped me to improve in these subjects and go on to a related career. The summer projects were hands on and divided into small groups, which taught me to not only be able to work constructively with others but also to use science in a different way than we did in school. We were actually taking real life issues and coming up with solutions. I felt like our research could actually make a difference, and the hands on approach made it easier to understand. The individual research projects were ultimately my favorite. Coming up with a science experiment that interested me and working one on one with a mentor helped me to gain confidence in my abilities.

The experience that UBMS provided helped me to realize that not only was college possible, but being in the medical field would be a way for me to continue making a real life difference while using a hands on approach. After UBMS, I went on to earn my Bachelors of Science in Nursing from UMaine. I graduated in 2009, and have been working as a Registered Nurse in the acute care setting since then. I have worked in a variety of areas including medical, surgical, cardiac, and even postpartum care. I attribute my success in college and in my career to the valuable lessons I learned while at Upward Bound.

Funding and Performance

Current Funding for Maine

| # of Awards | 1 |
| # of Participants | 67 |
| Grant Award | $297,034 |
| Cost per Participant | $4,433 |

National Funding

$43.1 Million was awarded in FY 2014

| Number of Awards | 162 |
| Total # of Students Served | 10,034 |
| Average Awards | $265,945 |
| Average # of Participants | 62 |
| Cost per Participant | $4,294 |

Performance Outcomes
Based on data from the most recently filed Annual Performance Report, filed in December 2014.

In 2014:

- 100% of Maine Upward Bound Math-Science students were promoted to the next grade level or graduated.
- 71% of Maine Upward Bound Math-Science students enrolled in PSE.

Funding Cycle
The last UBMS grant competition was held in Summer 2012. At the time, Maine’s existing UBMS was refunded. The next competition is expected in 2016.
Maine Educational Opportunity Association
Member Programs

Bowdoin College
Upward Bound
Project Director: Bridget Mullen, bmullen@bowdoin.edu
http://academic.bowdoin.edu/upward_bound/

Central Maine Community College
Project Director: Terry Charlton, tcharlton@cmcc.edu
http://www.cmcc.edu/AcademicsRegistration/ACADEMICASSISTANCE/TRIOStudentSupportServices.aspx#
VKLO9P8rc

Eastern Maine Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Rusty Brown, rbrown@emcc.edu
http://www.emcc.edu/academics/trio/

Kennebec Valley Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Lisa Black, lblack@kvcc.me.edu
http://www.kvcc.me.edu/Trio/

Northern Maine Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Tammy Nelson, tnelson@nmcc.edu

Southern Maine Community College
Student Support Services
Executive Director: Vincent Kloskowski, vkloskowski@smccME.edu
http://www.smccme.edu/admissions/future-students/trio.html

Thomas College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Amanda Favreau, triodir@thomas.edu
http://www.thomas.edu/inside/student-resources/learning-resources/sss-wave/

University of Maine
Educational Opportunity Center
Educational Talent Search
Project Director: Karen Keim, kkeim@maine.edu
http://meoc.maine.edu
http://mets.maine.edu

Student Support Services
Project Director: Eric Chapman, eric.chapman@umit.umaine.edu
http://www.umaine.edu/sss/
Upward Bound Regional Math-Science
Project Director: Rebecca Colannino, becky.colannino@umit.umaine.edu
http://www.umaine.edu/ub/

University of Maine Augusta
Student Support Services
Cornerstone Program
Project Director: Dori Fellman, dorrea.fellman@maine.edu
http://www.uma.maine.edu/cornerstone.html

University of Maine Farmington
Student Support Services
Upward Bound
Project Director: Lynn Ploof-Davis, lynn@maine.edu
http://brg.umaine.edu/
http://upwardbound.umaine.edu/

GEAR UP
Project Director: Kathryn Markovchick, kathryn@syntiro.org
www.gearupme.org

University of Maine Fort Kent
Student Support Services
Project Director: Lena Michaud, lmichaud@maine.edu
http://www.umfk.maine.edu/acserv/default.cfm?ref=2

University of Maine Presque Isle
Student Support Services
Project Director: Mary Kate Barbosa, mary.barbosa@umpi.edu
http://www.umpi.edu/current-students/sss
Talent Search
Upward Bound
Project Director: Darylen Cote, darylen.cote@umpi.edu
http://www.umpi.edu/prospective-students/upward-bound

University of Southern Maine
Student Support Services
Upward Bound
Project Director: Laurie Davis, lj.davis@usm.maine.edu
http://www.usm.maine.edu/upwardbound/
https://usm.maine.edu/trioprograms/trio-student-support-services

Washington County Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Gayle Moholland, gmoholland@wccc.me.edu
http://www.wccc.me.edu/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&layout=item&id=10&itemid=381

York County Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Jane Kimball Foley, yjfoley@yccc.edu
http://www.yccc.edu/StudentResources/AcademicAssistance/NorthStarTRIO
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teresa.morse@maine.edu

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Laurie Davis
Laurie.j.davis@maine.edu

Past-President & NEOA State Liason
Kelly Isleman
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Secretary
Christy Le
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Jane Kimball Foley
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2016 Conference Chair
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Anthony Staffiere
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Steve Visco
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For More information on TRIO Programs in Maine:
www.meeoa.org; Twitter: @meeoa_online

For more information on TRIO in New England:
www.neoaonline.org; Twitter: @neoa_online

For more information on TRIO Nationally:
www.coenet.us; Twitter: @COEtalk

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