

TRiO Policies

TRiO Participation

- To stay in the TRiO program, you need to meet with your TRiO advisor at least once a semester. Even if you did not receive the scholarship, you are still in TRiO. We want you to continue to participate!
- Once you have been accepted into TRiO, you can remain in the program. Your TRiO eligibility expires if you: 1) graduate, transfer from, or leave MU for any reason, 2) opt out of TRiO, 3) are a new TRiO participant and do not meet with your TRiO advisor your first semester in the program, 4) are a continuing TRiO participant and do not meet with your TRiO advisor for two consecutive semesters, 5) violate a laptop or textbook loan policy, or 6) are not currently enrolled in courses at MU.
- We strongly encourage you to take advantage of whatever services you find helpful. TRiO is here to help you, not overwhelm you! Use our services to support your overall academic efforts.

Scholarship Eligibility

- You are eligible for the scholarship in the fall and spring semesters if you are an active TRiO participant (see TRiO Participation guidelines above). Students who are in Sayre, undergoing an internship, or student teaching are still eligible for the scholarship. The available scholarship amount for fall 2011 and spring 2012 is \$250 each semester.
- **The scholarship requirements for first-semester Mansfield freshmen, returning freshmen with less than 30 earned credits, first semester transfer students, and first semester Sayre students are as follows:** To qualify for the Scholarship, you must have a 2.5 QPA (either for the semester or cumulatively) plus 10 TRiO contact hours. Within those 10 hours, you must have at least one meeting with your TRiO Advisor; two meetings with your TRiO Peer Mentor (at least 30 minutes each); participation in 2 TRiO or Career Center workshops.
- **The scholarship requirements for returning sophomores (between 30-60 credits)** that are not first semester transfer students or first semester Sayre students are as follows: To qualify for the Scholarship, you must have a 2.5 QPA (either for the semester or cumulatively) plus 10 TRiO contact hours. Within those 10 hours, you must have at least one meeting with your TRiO Advisor; two TRiO sponsored hours, as defined below; and two TRiO or Career Center workshops.
- **The scholarship requirement for juniors and seniors (60+ credits)** that are not first semester transfer students or first semester Sayre students are as follows: To qualify for the Scholarship, you must have a 2.5 QPA (either for the semester or cumulatively) plus 10 TRiO contact hours. Within those 10 hours, you must have at least one meeting with your TRiO Advisor and 3 TRiO sponsored hours agreed upon with your TRiO advisor. *At least one of the TRiO sponsored hours must be a financial, leadership, or career activity.*
- **Half-time policy:** If you earn less than 9 credits in a semester, you are eligible for a \$125 scholarship. You must still earn a 2.5 QPA either for the semester or cumulatively. You will only be required to complete 5 TRiO hours, as determined by your TRiO advisor. This option is only open to current TRiO students who earn between 3-8 credits in a semester.

TRiO Scholarship Definitions and Exceptions

- **Definitions of scholarship activities:**
 - *TRiO sponsored hours* include TRiO workshops, Career Center workshops, peer mentor visits, TRiO trips, TRiO activities, and additional TRiO advisor meetings.
 - *TRiO sponsored hours* do not include: Mountaineer Leadership Program workshops or activities; Career Center job fairs or other activities other than workshops; study tables; campus cultural activities; community service (for student interns and off-campus students); faculty lecture series events; other campus or off-campus workshops; other activities that are open to the general MU population.
 - *Study tables* include only hours completed at TRiO or Athletic Study Tables. Students must be logged into TutorTrac for study tables.
- *Cultural activities* include only those activities listed on the TRiO weekly update or those that are pre-approved by the TRiO Advisor. In order for the cultural activity to count as a hour, students must attend the entire cultural activity AND submit a reflective essay. The thoughtful response should be sent to the students' TRiO Advisor for approval.
- **Exceptions for the scholarship hours:** No more than 3 cultural activities will count toward the scholarship hours. Only 1.5 hours of study tables per week will count toward the 10 hours. Only activities listed in the TRiO updates will count toward the scholarship unless the activity is pre-approved by a TRiO advisor.
- **Off-campus policy:** The following students are considered "off-campus" and are permitted to fulfill the scholarship requirements for off-campus students: 1) a student who is student teaching, or 2) a student on a 12 credit internship where the internship is not in Mansfield. Students that are commuting, students that are telecommuting/online, students that are completing internships in Mansfield, or students that are completing internships of less than 12 credits are not considered off-campus.

Participation in TRiO Activities

- **Peer Mentor policies:**
 - Peer Mentor meetings must be a minimum of 30 minutes (each) in order for the appointment to count toward scholarship hours. If you miss 2 peer mentor or TRiO tutor appointments, you will be blocked on TutorTrac and unable to make another appointment. You will need to meet with your TRiO Advisor to get unblocked.
 - All peer mentor visits for the scholarship must be at least 3 weeks (21 days) apart. We encourage you to meet with your peer mentor more frequently, but only appointments 3 weeks apart will count toward the scholarship.
- **Off-Campus TRiO Sponsored Activities policies:**
 - If you miss an off-campus TRiO activity for which you were scheduled to attend, and do not contact the person in charge of the trip by the day/time listed for each event (typically 24 hours notice), you will be ineligible to attend the next 3 TRiO sponsored trips, even if the trips cross into the following semester. You will also be ineligible to attend the overnight trip that year. Any exceptional cases will be reviewed at the discretion of TRiO staff.
 - If you miss the *overnight* TRiO trip for which you were scheduled to attend, and do not give contact the person in charge of the trip by the day/time listed for the trip, you will be ineligible to receive the scholarship for that semester. You will also be ineligible to attend the next 3 TRiO sponsored trips, even if the trips cross into the following semester. The only exception is verification from a hospital emergency room for a medical emergency, as approved by TRiO staff. Any exceptional case will be at the discretion of TRiO staff.
- **Textbook and Laptop Loan policies are specified in the Textbook Loan and Laptop Loan agreements.**