

# TRIO/SSS TRIBUNE

## TRIO/SSS IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

Welcome back to the start of fall semester and another academic year! These past few months have been confusing, challenging, and stressful for all of us. As we begin the academic year, many of these stressors are still impacting us daily. TRIO/Student Support Services is here to help you answer questions as you navigate your classes in these uncertain times. TRIO/Student Support Services staff are proud of the resiliency and strength our students have shown in the face of so many challenges. Please reach out to your TRIO/SSS advisor if you have any questions. TRIO/SSS advisors will be available remotely to meet with students and answer questions. We are looking forward to working with you and to another successful academic year!

## FALL HOURS OF OPERATION

In order to keep our students and advisors safe, TRIO/SSS staff will be available virtually by appointment during fall semester. The TRIO/SSS Office will be “open” Monday-Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm. Current TRIO/SSS students may schedule a meeting with their TRIO/SSS advisor through ScheduleOnce.

The ScheduleOnce link is accessible through the TRIO/SSS webpage [www.augsburg.edu/triosss/staff](http://www.augsburg.edu/triosss/staff). You can also make a virtual appointment with your TRIO advisor through the TRIO/SSS Moodle page which is available to current TRIO/SSS participants. Keep an eye out for “virtual drop-in hours” with your TRIO/SSS advisor. You’ll be notified once we have these times scheduled.

A limited schedule of in person, safely distanced, mask wearing, drop-in advising (quick questions, signatures; not long term planning meetings!) will be available at the Strommen Center in Christensen Center. Details and schedule will be on the TRIO/SSS Moodle page!

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# AUGSBURG TRIO/SSS IS AWARDED THROUGH 2025



**TRIO/SSS Staff celebrating the good news via zoom !**

After a rigorous application process and months of waiting, Augsburg University was recently notified by the U.S. Department of Education that the TRIO/SSS grant proposal has been awarded. We will be able to continue serving first-generation underrepresented students for another 5 years! Thank you to everyone who has supported Augsburg TRIO/SSS and continues to do so.

Augsburg TRIO/Student Support Services (SSS) provides individual and group services to 160 students annually, so that they may overcome class, social, and cultural barriers to complete their education. TRIO/SSS advisors provide comprehensive planning and support to program participants in academic, financial, and personal areas as students progress toward graduation. All Augsburg TRIO/SSS services are provided at no cost to program participants. Students participate in TRIO/SSS throughout their enrollment at Augsburg. The U.S. Department of Education has funded Augsburg TRIO/SSS with \$294,722 for 2020-21.

Augsburg TRIO/SSS also selects 25 incoming first-year, TRIO-eligible students to participate in its Summer Bridge component. Augsburg University provides additional funding for Summer Bridge, approximately \$125,000 this year or 30% to match the TRIO/SSS grant award.

TRIO/SSS began in 1968 and is one of the eight federal “TRIO” programs authorized by the Higher Education Act to help college students succeed in higher education. It recognizes that students whose parents do not have a college degree have more difficulties navigating the complexity of decisions that college requires for success; it bolsters students from low income families who have not had the academic opportunities that their college peers have had, and helps students with disabilities overcome obstacles preventing them from thriving academically.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened the systemic inequality and financial hardship which keep promising students from succeeding in college. Student Support Services is needed now more than ever,” said Maureen Hoyler. Hoyler is the president of Opportunity in Education in Washington, D.C., a non-profit dedicated to furthering the expansion of college opportunities for low-income, first-generation students, and students with disabilities.

For more than 50 years, the Student Support Services program has made important contributions to individuals and society as a whole by providing a broad range of services to help students succeed. This vital program can and does make all the difference.

# VOTE!

**YOUR**

Unless you've been hibernating under a rock, you should know that it's a U.S. presidential election year. This means that you should exercise your right to vote! Did you know that college students have traditionally voted at one of the lowest rates of any group in the United States?

**VOTE**

"Young adults (ages 18-29) made up about 21% of the voting eligible population in 2014, but voter turnout for this demographic has reached record lows in recent years. In midterm elections like 2018 and in off-year elections like 2015, local offices are on the ballot and can be decided by a matter of a few votes. Local offices and issues have a direct impact on a student's home and college community. Officials make decisions on topics like student debt, funding for higher education, and the economy" (campusvoteproject.org). However, it doesn't have to be that way.

**COUNTS**

So, if you want to make sure that you have a job after graduation, or not be in so much debt, or even afford basic necessities such as affordable healthcare, then you need to vote! Every vote counts. Studies have shown that young adults are not voting not because they aren't engaged in the democratic process or because they don't care, but because there are barriers that prevent them from voting. These barriers can range from missing a deadline to register to vote, not knowing the issues and candidates on the ballot, not receiving accurate information on deadlines and processes for voting absentee, by-mail, early voting, or where to vote on Election Day (campusvoteproject.org).

College student voters matter. Young people have the power to make a difference. The way to achieve this is to make your voice heard at the polls on election day! To get all the info about why, who, what and when to vote, visit <https://library.augsburg.edu/elections-voting-mn>. YOUR VOTE COUNTS!



# TRIO/SSS 2020 GRADUATES

Congratulations to the Augsburg TRIO/SSS Class of 2020! We are so proud of all their hard work and accomplishments. Although the world is uncertain and a little scary right now, we know each one of them will make a difference. TRIO students are resilient, hardworking, and are trailblazers. They pave the way for their families and their communities and they never give up, even when things are hard. Since we weren't able to celebrate with them in person at U.S. Bank Stadium and take pictures with their smiling faces in their graduation regalia last spring. We wanted to take this opportunity and recognize each one of them. (The list below are students who have been awarded degrees as of 8/31/2020).

Ahmed Aden  
Arianna Antone-Ramirez  
Thanda Bo  
Jasmira Colon  
John DeWitt  
Davida Fuller  
Christian Kardio  
Civastina Kyewaa

Hsinku Lay  
Kong Meng Lee  
Bonsa Mohamed  
Jamilla Mohamed  
Thomas Moua  
Biftu Negawo  
Teresa Nguyen  
Simone Rask

Abdul Sharif  
Quentin Smith  
Yhia Thao  
Anna Vang  
Bryam Velzez-Ortiz  
Yee Vue  
Marka Wreh

## DEAN'S LIST

Congratulations to the following TRIO/SSS students for earning a spot on the Dean's List for spring and summer 2020 semesters. The Dean's List recognizes students who received a 3.5 GPA or higher at the end of each semester. Great job on your hard work!

Abby Adegeye  
Salma Ahmed  
Coda Aitkin  
Annabelle Arns  
Henry Aryiku  
Kayla Benitez Sanchez  
Bidhya Bhattarai  
Taron Busby  
Kay Carvajal Moran  
Mindy Chang  
Nou-Chee Chang  
Maizogbo Collins  
Farah Dahir  
Ridwan Dahir  
Yusra Darkazanli  
Helio De La Torre  
Melissa Flores Jaimes  
Pamela Fue

Yomiyu Gafesu  
Willington Gahona  
Mihret Geleta  
Estefani Guiracocha  
Frank Heenie  
Yer Her  
Brooklyn Jones  
Kwe Knyaw  
Katrina Lee  
Pa Houa Lee  
Samantha Lopez  
Ed Loubaki  
Samantha Marholtz  
Faith Moua  
Grace Onken  
Shelley Pacheco  
Edwin Panora  
Saul Patino

Miisko Poupart-Chapman  
Bo Schlosser  
Nate Seleshi  
Ciashia Shiongyaj  
Khalid Shire  
Josie Slavik  
Falak Tawakalna  
Dametre Thunberg  
Jason Totaram  
Caitlin Tran  
Juan Velesaca  
Zuani Ventura  
Anthony Villagrana  
Jonathan Vu  
Nathan Vue  
Trenton Washington  
Cheng Yeng Xiong

# FALL WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

## SEPTEMBER

### *Virtual Open House*

Friday, September 4  
Time: Noon-2:00pm

### *Tech Talk-Zoom*

Thursday, September 10  
Time: 2:00-2:30pm  
Friday, September 11  
Time: 3:15-3:45pm

### *Tech Talk: Google Calendar*

Tuesday, September 15  
Time: 11:30am-12:00pm  
Wednesday, September 16  
Time: 2:00pm-2:30pm

### *Virtual Dialogue: Adapting to Distance Learning*

Thursday, September 17  
Time: 3:45-4:15pm

### *Tech Talk: Netiquette*

Wednesday, September 23  
Time: 11:00-11:30am  
Thursday, September 24  
Time: 3:45-4:15pm

### *Virtual Dialogue: Staying Connected & Engaged*

Wednesday, September 30  
Time: 3:15-3:45pm

## OCTOBER

### *Note Taking in an Online Format*

Tuesday, October 6  
Time: 2:00-2:30pm  
Wednesday, October 7  
3:15-3:45pm

### *Virtual Dialogue: Exercising your right to Vote!*

Tuesday, October 13  
Time: 3:45-4:15pm

### *Study Skills in an Online Format*

Wednesday, October 14  
Time: 11:00-11:30am  
Thursday, October 15  
Time: 2:00-2:30pm

### *Virtual Dialogue: Self-Care*

Wednesday, October 21  
Time: 3:15-3:45pm

### *2nd Year RRR (Required for all 2nd year students)*

Tuesday, October 27  
Time: 3:45-4:45pm  
Wednesday, October 28  
Time: 3:15-4:15pm  
Thursday, October 29  
Time: 8:15-9:15am

## NOVEMBER

### *Virtual Dialogue: Setting healthy boundaries*

Thursday, November 5  
Time: 3:45-4:15pm

### *Virtual Dialogue: Navigating the holiday*

Wednesday, November 18  
Time: 3:15-3:45pm

## DECEMBER

### *Virtual Dialogue: Prepping for finals*

Tuesday, December 8  
Time: 3:45-4:15pm

TRIO/SSS Students must attend at least two workshops each semester. Sign up at ScheduleOnce <https://go.oncehub.com/TRIOSSSWorkshops> to access the zoom link.

# TRIO WEEKLY EMAIL



TRIO/SSS will continue to send out weekly blast emails every Monday with important information and reminders. Please make sure to read through these weekly blasts. We know that you are bombarded with a lot of emails daily, therefore we promise to only include important information that you need to know.

## NEW TRIO/SSS MOODLE SITE

This fall semester, we are launching a TRIO/SSS Moodle Site that will be available to all TRIO/SSS participants. The TRIO/SSS Moodle site will have different tools and resources available for students. Resources will include information on navigating online learning, financial aid literacy, class-year specific information, and much, much more! It will provide information for your success at Augsburg, as well as help connect TRIO/SSS students to each other, especially now that our physical office is currently not open. This Moodle site will be used in advising meetings with your advisor, but can also be navigated on your own, so make sure to check back frequently for updates!

## EQUIPMENT CHECKOUT



With classes moving to hybrid and online modalities this fall semester, students will need to have reliable access to a computer and internet. Augsburg is offering an expansion to their laptop checkout program, allowing students to checkout laptops for the entire semester. There are approximately 135 machines available for long term checkout and priority will be given to students with financial need. To request a long-term laptop loan, fill out a student laptop request form at <https://inside.augsburg.edu/it/services-we-provide/student-laptops-and-internet/>

Students taking a Math or Computer Science course that requires a device to show your work in an online environment may borrow a Wacom drawing tablet through Lindell Library at the circulation desk. There are 10 tablets available for TRIO/SSS students. (Note: If you already have a touch screen laptop, it works the same as a Wacom drawing tablet).



TRIO/SSS students who are interested in checking out a graphic calculator or Smartpen can contact our Program Assistant, Annie Chen, at [triosss@augsborg.edu](mailto:triosss@augsborg.edu) for more information on equipment request and pickup.



We also have limited school supplies of notebook, folders, pens, and pencils for TRIO/SSS students. Again, please contact our Annie for more information.

# VIRTUAL SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM



This past July, we welcomed twenty-four incoming first-year students to our 19th Summer Bridge program and our first ever “virtual” Summer Bridge Program! During this intensive five-week virtual experience, students got a head start on their Augsburg education by taking two college courses, totaling 6 credits, for free. In COM 111: Introduction to Public Speaking, students learned research skills and honed their speaking abilities by presenting individual and group speeches. The class concluded with students competing in a virtual speech tournament in which groups presented on different speech topics. The competition

gave students an opportunity to highlight what they learned and a chance to support, and challenge, their classmates.

COM 111 was paired with a brand new course, LIB 130: Fake News 101: Research Skills, Information Assessment, and Seeking the Truth. In this complimentary course students learned tools to become efficient, effective, and critical researchers and they were introduced to scholarly research and databases. Students also learned how to distinguish quality sources through research papers and other assignments. The use of appropriate data and sources helped support their speeches in COM 111.

Summer Bridge participants, who were eligible, received a Summer Bridge Promise Grant which covers full tuition up to four years. In addition to virtual classes, students also attended virtual academic support seminars, workshops, and other activities that help provide a smooth transition to Augsburg in the fall. Congratulations to the 2020 Virtual Summer Bridge Class!

## BRIDGE PEER MENTORS

Thank you to the Bridge Peer Mentors (BPMs) who helped us make our first “virtual” Summer Bridge Program a huge success. We couldn’t have done it without you!



*Maddy Gowans-'23  
Social Work Major*



*Chris Torres -'23  
Computer Science Major*



*Shelley Pacheco- '23  
Sociology Major*



*Tyana Maddox-Sanders- '23  
History & Secondary Education  
Majors*

# SUMMER BRIDGE 2020 CLASS



# 2020

**“VIRTUALLY” THE BEST SUMMER BRIDGE EVER!!**



**VIRTUALLY THE  
BEST CLASS  
EVER!**

## Augsburg TRIO Student Support Services

The Student Support Services (SSS) program is one of three TRIO programs originally funded under the Higher Education Act of 1965, whose objective is to help students overcome class, social, and cultural barriers to complete their college education.

First awarded in 2001 and funded by the U.S. Department of Education and Augsburg, TRIO/Student Support Services (SSS) provides individual and group services to 160 students annually, so that they may overcome class, social, and cultural barriers to complete their education.

TRIO/SSS advisors provide comprehensive planning and support to program participants in academic, financial, and personal areas as students progress toward graduation.

All Augsburg TRIO/SSS services are provided at no cost to program participants. Students participate in TRIO/SSS throughout their enrollment at Augsburg.

Augsburg TRIO/SSS also selects 25 incoming first-year, TRIO-eligible students to participate in its Summer Bridge component.

## Contact Us



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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

