



Getting Through

Student Support Services

Low-income, first-generation, and disabled students often need extra guidance navigating higher education, and this is the role of Student Support Services (SSS), a TRIO program, at West Virginia University. In SSS, students are able to utilize specialized academic advising and support services. Tutoring, social events, and assistance with financial aid are provided by SSS. These targeted initiatives are vital to the retention and success of low-income students.

Carolina Covenant

While the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Carolina Covenant has a financial aid focus, Covenant Scholars receive additional services and support. Knowing that laptop computers are a requirement for UNC-Chapel Hill freshmen and that most Covenant Scholars are unable to purchase a personal laptop, Covenant arranged for Lenovo to provide laptops to these students free of charge. Academic and social support is geared toward every undergraduate level, and all Covenant Scholars have a faculty adviser. Guest speakers frequently meet with Covenant Scholars, and community service projects are designed and carried out by Covenant Scholars.

College Assistance Migrant Program

Low-income and first-generation students from migrant labor backgrounds face particular obstacles that extend beyond financial need. Adjusting to and remaining in college is noted as particularly challenging by the College Assistance Migrant Program at the University of Texas at El Paso. Along with assisting students in pursuing their academic interests, students have informal meetings with faculty and staff mentors, a strategy known to facilitate academic success.

Shoestring Strategies for Life @ Harvard

Published under the auspices of the Harvard Financial Aid Initiative, this booklet offers campus and community money-saving tips to Harvard undergraduates. While helpful to all undergraduate students, the information offered in this guide is targeted toward low-income students. Sections of the guide include how to save on academic expenses, special programs targeted at low-income students, money earning and savings tips, and how to find summer opportunities.

Financial Education & Counseling Center

Known as FEd at the University of Oklahoma, the center aims to assist students with their finances. With focus on components of counseling, outreach, research, and employment, students receive a broad range of services from tips on filing taxes to workshops on financial literacy. Understanding financial aid and how to graduate with less debt is central to the services of the office. FEd also acts as a resource for obtaining work-study jobs and for students with gambling addictions.

Economic Access Initiative

This office acts as a focal point for The Ohio State University for enabling college access among low-income Ohioans. With a primary aim of increasing enrollment of students from all 88 of Ohio's counties, the Economic Access Initiative provides detailed steps students, families, teachers, counselors, and Ohio State staff can take in preparing low-income students for college and helping these students succeed while there. Enabling current OSU students is an additional aim of the office's services.