

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education Appropriations
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro,
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We write to thank you for your strong support of the Federal TRIO Programs (“TRIO”) and to request that you continue to prioritize these programs and provide robust funding in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. A complement to federal financial aid, TRIO promotes postsecondary access, retention, and completion for low-income, first-generation students.

Nearly 3,400 TRIO programs provide support in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., the Pacific Islands and Puerto Rico at over 1,000 colleges, universities, and community-based agencies. These programs help approximately 817,000 students prepare for, enter, and graduate from college each year. Increased funding will allow even more students to benefit from the academic, financial, and social supports provided by these programs. TRIO’s individualized tutoring, counseling, academic advising, and other services are critical to the success of low-income, first-generation students attaining a higher education. This, in turn, leads to higher rates of employment and compensation for TRIO graduates – a boon to local economies as program participants are transformed into taxpayers who help their communities thrive.

We are proud that TRIO serves learners from as young as the sixth grade through adult learners and includes specialized programming for military veterans. Since their inception in 1964, TRIO programs have produced over 6 million college graduates. Research shows that college graduates have lower unemployment rates and pay more in federal taxes.¹ Over the course of a lifetime, bachelor’s degree recipients will earn \$1 million than a high school graduate and graduate degree recipients will earn \$1.7 million more, even after accounting for the cost of higher education and delayed entry into the workforce. The collective increase from those who attained postsecondary degrees in 2010 through 2020 will yield \$14.2 trillion in net earnings over the rest of their lifetimes, thereby infusing the economy through both spending and tax revenue.²

¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Education Pays 2023*. [Education pays, 2023 : Career Outlook: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

² Georgetown Center for Education and the Workforce, *Learning and Earning by Degrees*, 2024. [CEW-attainment-gains-full_report.pdf](#).

TRIO is comprised of seven student-facing programs including Talent Search, which provides college exposure to middle and high school students; Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math-Science, which provide intense pre-college preparation through academic and experiential learning for high school students, with the latter emphasizing STEM education; and Veterans Upward Bound, which helps military veterans leverage their earned education benefits and prepare for postsecondary education. The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement (“McNair”) program prepares undergraduates to pursue doctoral degrees. Educational Opportunities Centers (“EOC”) assist unemployed and low-income adults in re-entering the education pipeline. The largest TRIO program, Student Support Services (“SSS”), is the only national program providing college retention and completion supports for low-income, first-generation students as well as students with disabilities.

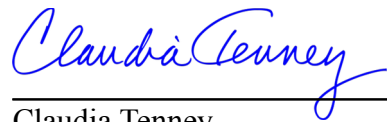
As all TRIO programs must compete for funding every five years, the FY27 appropriations legislation will directly impact the number and size of the Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math-Science, Veterans Upward Bound and McNair grants awarded in the pending FY27 grant competitions. These programs have a strong record of success. Upward Bound students, including those in the Upward Bound Math-Science programs, are more than twice as likely to earn a bachelor’s degree by age 24 than students in the lowest income quartile. Veterans Upward Bound students are 42% more likely than other low-income veterans to earn an associate or bachelor’s degree. McNair students are 52% more likely to enroll in graduate school than college graduates in the bottom income quartile.

We appreciate the Subcommittee’s continued commitment to TRIO. Given the programs’ proven success and impact on our nation’s economy, we respectfully request your support of robust funding in FY27.

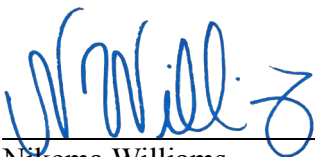
Sincerely,



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

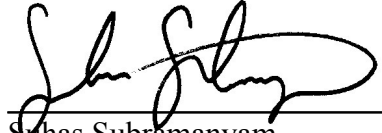


Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress

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Josh Riley
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress



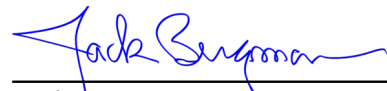
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



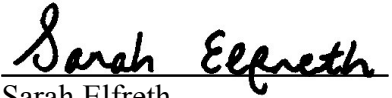
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



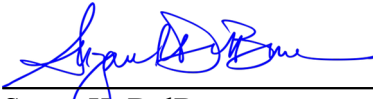
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
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Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



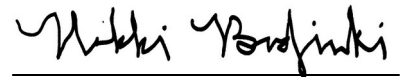
Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



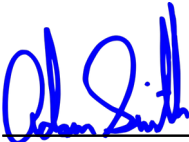
Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



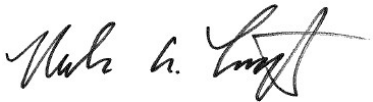
Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



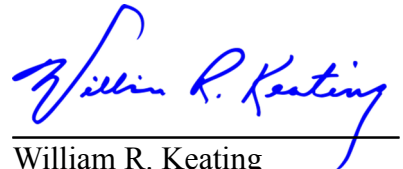
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



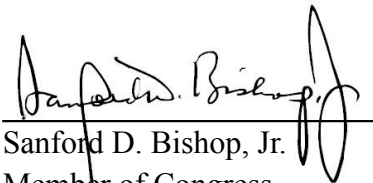
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Nicholas A. Langworthy
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William R. Keating
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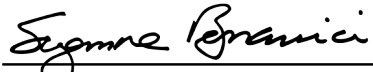


Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

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Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou
Member of Congress



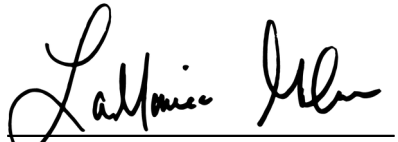
Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



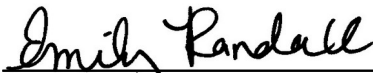
John W. Mannion
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



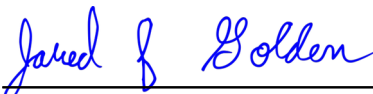
LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



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Summer L. Lee
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Frederica S. Wilson
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Joaquin Castro
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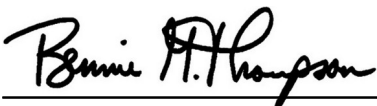
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



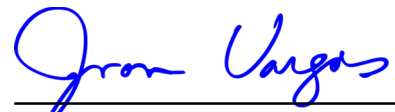
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



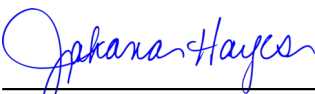
Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
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Juan Vargas
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Jahana Hayes
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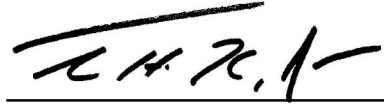


Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

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Raul Ruiz, M.D.
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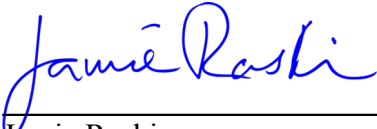
Thomas H. Kean, Jr.
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George Latimer
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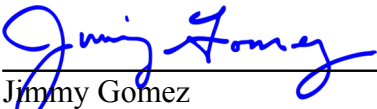
Frank Pallone, Jr.
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Jamie Raskin
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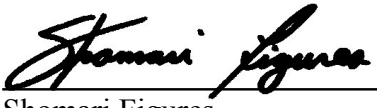
Greg Stanton
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Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



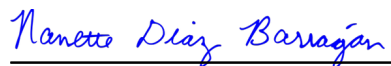
Jan Schakowsky
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Nanette Diaz Barragán
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George Whitesides
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Aumua Amata Coleman
Radewagen
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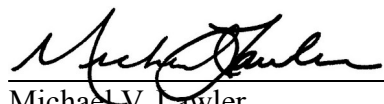
Brad Finstad
Member of Congress



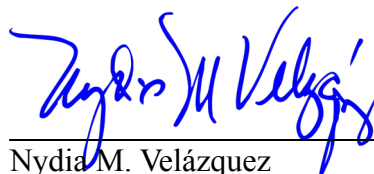
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Rob Bresnahan, Jr.
Member of Congress



Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



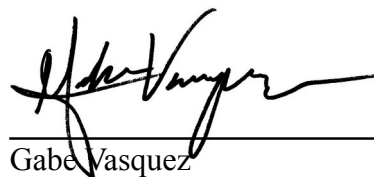
Vicente Gonzalez
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Lizzie Fletcher
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Andrea Salinas
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Robert J. Menendez
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Zach Nunn
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Kevin Mullin
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Thomas R. Suozzi
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Dan Goldman
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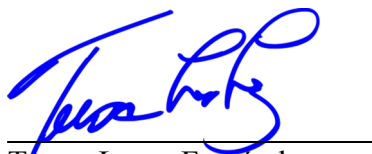
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



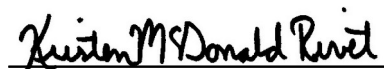
Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



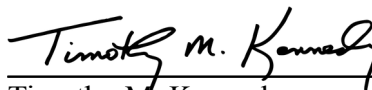
James P. McGovern
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Teresa Leger Fernández
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Kristen McDonald Rivet
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Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



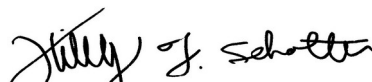
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

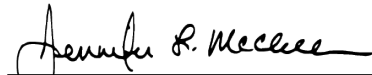


Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress

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Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



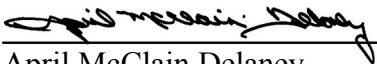
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



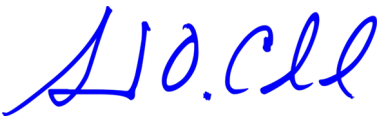
Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



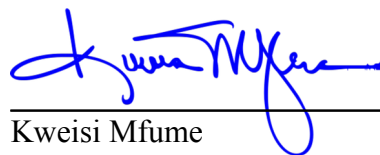
Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Dave Min
Member of Congress



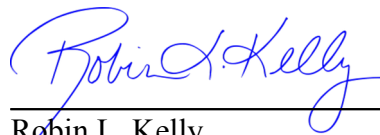
Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



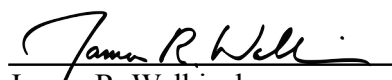
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



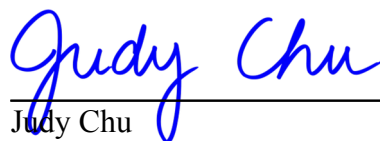
Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



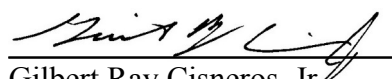
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



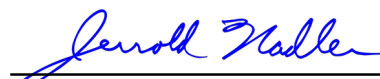
James R. Walkinshaw
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

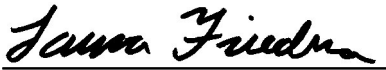


Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress

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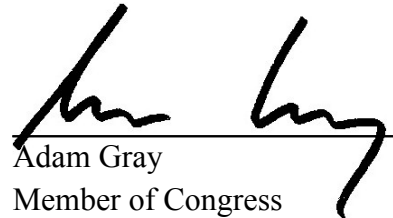
Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Adam Gray
Member of Congress



Michael Baumgartner
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



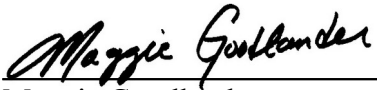
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



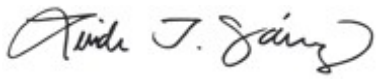
Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



Ami Bera
Member of Congress



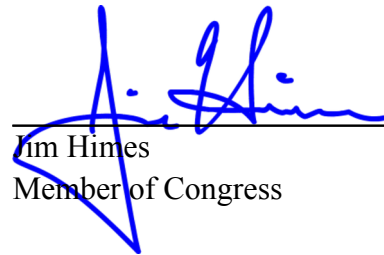
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Laurel M. Lee
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress

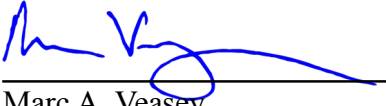


Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress

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Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Derrick Van Orden
Member of Congress



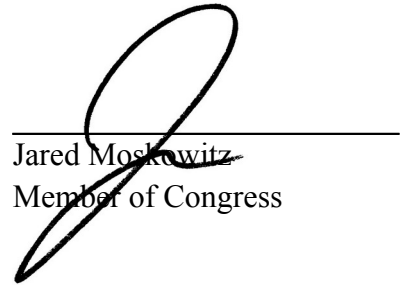
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



SETH MOULTON
Member of Congress



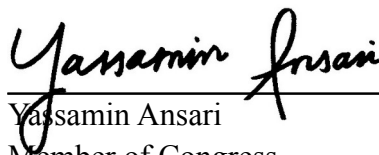
Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



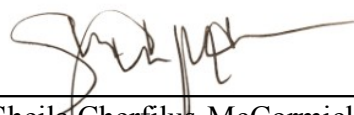
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



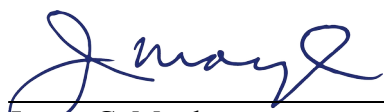
Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



James C. Moylan
Member of Congress



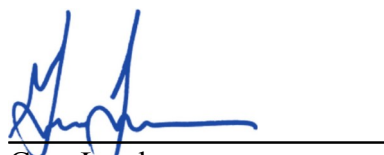
Donald G. Davis
Member of Congress



Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Sam Graves
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress

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Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



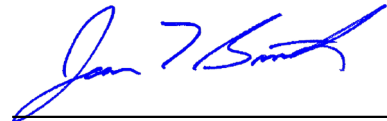
Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress



Jason Smith
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Darin LaHood
Member of Congress



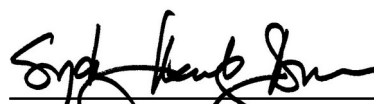
Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager Dove
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



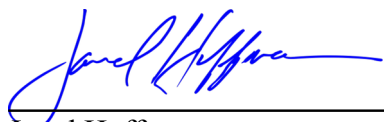
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



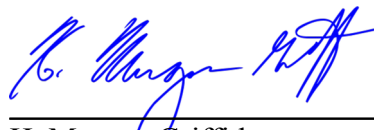
Frank D. Lucas
Member of Congress



Janelle S. Bynum
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



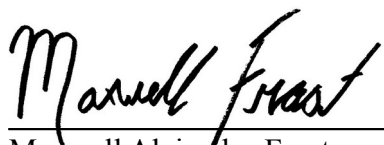
H. Morgan Griffith
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Mike Carey
Member of Congress

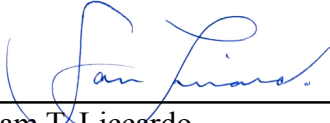


Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress

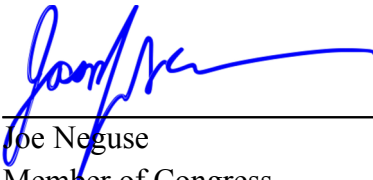
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Washington, DC 20515



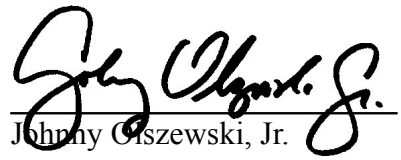
Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress



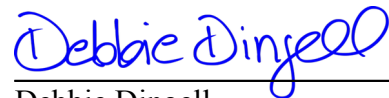
Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Johnny Oiszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



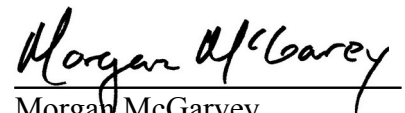
Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Lance Gooden
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress



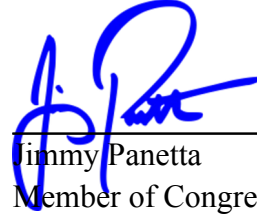
Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress



Mike Flood
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress