

## **The ASPIRE/Student Support Services Program**

Student Support Services Program is a federally funded TRiO program that was created to:

- ◆ Improve the graduation and retention rates of first generation (neither parent/guardian has a bachelor's degree), low-income, and disabled college students;
- ◆ Assist students in achieving academic success commensurate with their academic potential and the efforts they invest in their academic endeavors;
- ◆ Facilitate their entrance into graduate and professional school programs; and
- ◆ Foster an institutional climate supportive of the academic, cultural, and personal success of the participants.

### **Who is eligible to participate?**

Eligible students must be currently enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, at the University of Montevallo; be a U. S. citizen or Permanent Resident; **and meet the following criteria:**

- ◆ a *low-income* individual (as determined by federal guidelines),
- ◆ a *first generation* college student (neither parent/guardian has a four-year college degree), or
- ◆ an individual with a documented *disability*; **and**
- ◆ demonstrate an *academic need* for services provided by ASPIRE/SSS, in order to be a successful college graduate.

*The ASPIRE/SSS Program is funded to serve only 200 eligible students; and because of federal guidelines, priority is given to students who are:*

- both low-income and first generation college;*
- both low-income and have a disability;*
- Alumni of other TRiO programs: Upward Bound, Talent Search, or another SSS program.*

## **What is TRiO?**

"TRiO" refers to a series of programs, funded under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, created to assist disadvantaged Americans in overcoming class, social and cultural barriers to higher education. The term TRiO was coined to represent the initial three programs, Upward Bound, Educational Talent Search, and Student Support Services.

Currently there are 2,600 TRiO Programs throughout the United States, 937 of which are Student Support Services Programs.



**For more information contact us at**

**ASPIRE/Student Support Services**

**University of Montevallo**

**Phone: 205.665.6250**

**Fax: 205.665.6255**

**Or Visit Our Website!**

**<http://www.montevallo.edu/sss>**

**The ASPIRE/Student Support Services Program is 100% funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.**

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MONTEVALLO**

**ASPIRE**  
**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**



**TRiO**  
**ASPIRE**  
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

## TUTORING SERVICES

A major component of the ASPIRE/Student Support Services program is our tutoring services. We provide one-on-one tutoring in core curriculum classes that include mathematics, science, foreign language, social science and history courses. Our tutor training program is certified by the College Reading and Learning Association.

Participating in an effective tutoring program can have a positive and *statistically significant* impact on students' grades, credits, and, ultimately, their retention. Participants are strongly encouraged to sign up for tutoring *before* problems occur.

### OUR TUTORS



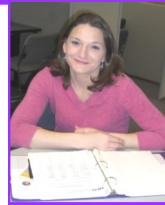
After a competitive selection process, we hire the best tutors available. They are knowledgeable about their area of study, and are expected to explain the subject material clearly and patiently. Our tutors are familiar with the courses and the professors. They receive ongoing supervision and training to increase their skills.

At the end of the semester, participants have an opportunity to evaluate the tutors' work performance. Evaluations are important in helping us identify areas that might need change or improvement.

### COMPUTER LABORATORY

We maintain a fully equipped and networked computer laboratory. The PC Workstations are fully operational with the latest Microsoft Office software, have the latest web browsers for full Internet access, and are networked to laser printers.

ASPIRE/SSS participants know the secret to a solid college performance--academic support! Since 1979 the program has provided academic assistance to 200 undergraduate students each year. Students generally are admitted in their freshman year and remain in the program until they receive their baccalaureate degree from the University of Montevallo.



There is **no charge** for services provided through the ASPIRE/SSS program. Participation is voluntary, but students *must* apply to the program and *must* abide by participation guidelines to continue receiving services.



### NOTEBOOK COMPUTERS



The ASPIRE/SSS Program has several notebook computers, which are available on loan to program participants on a short-term basis, for class projects.

### TEXTBOOK LENDING LIBRARY

The ASPIRE/SSS Program now provides a limited textbook lending library for freshman and sophomore participants. Textbooks are for lower level core courses in math, science and history. Textbooks for other courses may be added depending on funding.



## OTHER SERVICES ASPIRE/SSS PROVIDES

- ◆ **College Success Seminars:** Each seminar is designed to strengthen personal, professional, and academic competencies.
- ◆ **Educational Counseling:** We will provide you an opportunity to discuss academic or personal concerns that may hinder you from achieving your goals.
- ◆ **Financial Aid and Money Management Workshops:** We will assist you with getting to the resources you need to understand and work through the financial aid process and ultimately be better prepared to manage your *own* personal finances.
- ◆ **Math Workshops:** These workshops assist students in developing a clear strategy to succeed in their respective math courses and academic goals, as well as provide them with helpful strategies for students to learn how to deal with their math anxieties.
- ◆ **Graduate School Preparation Workshops:** To help students navigate the graduate or professional school application process.
- **Cultural Events:** Cultural activities and events, both off and on campus, provide unique experiences that educate, enlighten and entertain from a global perspective.
- **And more!**

### ASPIRE/SSS OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday: 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### TUTORING HOURS

Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.\*

\* Arranged by appointment