

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Opportunity Scholars Program (Student Support Services, a division of TRiO) is a federally funded grant program which provides services to increase retention and graduation of first-generation students. At least two-thirds of the program participants enrolled must be first-generation college students and have a financial and academic need. The remaining one-third may be either first-generation or have financial need or a disability. First-generation college student means that neither parent or guardian has completed a four-year degree. If you fit the definition of a first-generation college student, you may be eligible for Opportunity Scholars.

## **RESERVATIONS**

Open enrollment is held during the first two weeks of the Fall and Spring semesters. Come by the TRiO Learning Resource Center to pick up an application or complete the one on your flash drive which you will receive during orientation.

**Everything on our menu is free of charge to all OSP participants.**

The Student Support Services program is a federally funded program that provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of their post-secondary education. The goal of the Student Support Services program—OSP— at USC Lancaster is to increase college retention and graduation rates and facilitate the process of learning from one level of education to the next. OSP is a great way to network with other college students and make lasting connections that are a valuable part of the college experience. We serve 160 first generation, low income and disabled students annually. TRiO programs are funded 100 percent by the US Department of Education.

### **USCL OSP STAFF**

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## **Opportunity Scholars Program**



## **MENU OF SERVICES**

**TRiO Programs at USCL**  
Medford Library  
PO Box 889  
Lancaster, SC 29721  
<http://usclancaster.sc.edu/osp>

## APPETIZERS

### **Early Start**

Early Start is an intensive 3 week summer program designed to assist incoming first year students in making a smooth transition from high school to college.

### **New Student Orientation**

Each semester, we hold a new student orientation for our incoming OSP students. During orientation, you will learn more about OSP and will complete any paperwork needed to finalize your admission into the program.

## ENTREES

### **Strong Interest Inventory**

The Strong Interest Inventory is an assessment tool that identifies personal and vocational interests as related to specific activities and occupations. The Strong Interest Inventory is used to assist students in making decisions about majors and careers. After taking the online assessment, you will meet with the **Career Specialist** to go over the results.

### **Lunch N Learn Workshops**

A series of informal 45 minute workshops developed to help students improve their study skills, familiarize themselves with campus resources, and develop effective social skills.

### **Computer Lab**

The TRiO Learning Resource Center provides state-of-the-art computers, printers, and scanners for student use. OSP students are also given free internet access and an e-mail account. Many students use the TLRC as their place to study and work on course assignments.

### **Academic Advisors**

Academic advisors are available by appointment to assist you in planning your schedules and helping you during the semester if you are having trouble in a course.

## HOUSE FAVORITES

### **Academic Performance Monitoring**

The **OSP Academic Specialist** closely monitors each student's schedule, course work, grades, etc. during each semester. The Academic Specialist works closely with college professors to ensure that each OSP participant is successfully passing and completing course work. In the event that the student is experiencing difficulties in a class, a plan of action is developed with the student to overcome those obstacles.

### **Counseling Services**

The **Career/Cultural Specialist** works closely with participants to make sure they are having a smooth semester and can assist with the following:

- Financial Aid Counseling
- Career Counseling
- Transfer Counseling
- Personal Counseling

## A LA CARTE

Ask an OSP staff member for a listing of dates and current workshop titles. Lunch N Learn workshops are held throughout the semester. Some past topics include:

- Career Planning**
- Decision Making**
- Filling Out Your FAFSA**
- Goal Setting**
- Job Search Skills**
- Money Management**
- Note Taking**
- Stress Management**
- Test Anxiety**
- Time Management**

## TAKE OUT

The following USC Lancaster programs offer vital resources for OSP students:

- Academic Success Center**
- Medford Library**
- Counseling Center**

## DESSERT SPECIALS

### **Summer School Grant Aid**

Supplemental grant for students to attend a class during the summer sessions. Additional criteria apply.

### **Graduate Medallions**

OSP graduates are awarded a silver medallion during commencement to represent their achievement.

### **Five Days of Christmas**

A fun way to wrap up the fall semester before winter break: from movies to music and yummy food.

### **Spring Stress Free Zone**

Refreshments and a break from Spring Finals

### **Text Book Loan Program**

We have select text books available for our students to utilize in the TRiO Learning Resource Center.

### **The OSPy Awards**

Our end of the year awards banquet which always has a theme.

### **Leadership Forums**

Throughout the academic year, these provide opportunities for students to develop or share their leadership skills.

### **Omega Scholars**

Provides mentoring, academic support, and higher educational opportunities to minority male students.

### **Delta Links**

Provides mentoring, academic support and higher educational opportunities to minority female students.

