

MAY NEWSLETTER



GRADUATION SEASON

May has finally arrived, marking the season for graduation and celebration. It also signals that the Summer 2025 semester is just around the corner, alongside the conclusion of the Spring 2025 semester. This semester has passed quickly, and it's now time to prepare for finals. As you study and navigate these final weeks, remember to prioritize your well-being by getting sufficient rest, staying hydrated, and taking regular breaks. We can achieve this! Let's finish strong and celebrate our accomplishments together.

THIS ISSUE

- Page 2 — **May Events**
- Page 3 — **Scholarships**
- Page 4 — **Memorial Day**
- Page 5 — **MMIW Day**
- Page 6 — **May Birthdays**
- Page 7 — **Scholar of the Month**
- Page 8 — **TRIO Alumni**
- Page 9-20 — **TRIO/SSS Graduates**

2025

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 MAY YOU	5 HAND PRINTS	6 TRIO/SSS Award Ceremony	7	8	9	10
11 Happy Mother's Day	12 BIRTHDAYS	13 BIRTHDAYS	14 BIRTHDAYS	15 BIRTHDAYS	16 BIRTHDAYS	17 Class of 2025 GRADUATES
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 MEMORIAL DAY	26 MEMORIAL DAY	27	28	29	30	31





MAY EVENTS

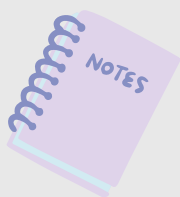
TRIO/SSS Summer Office Hours

We will be available throughout the summer, so if you need any assistance or would like to visit, we would be delighted to see you.

TRIO/SSS Congradulates the Class of 2024-2025

The TRIO Student Support Service team congratulates the graduating class of 2024-2025! We are proud of your achievements and encourage you to reflect on your hard work and challenges. As you move forward, whether in further education, new careers, or pursuing passions, remember you are well-prepared to make a positive impact. Stay curious, resilient, and committed to learning. Congratulations again, and know you will always be part of the TRIO family!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR SUMMER/FALL 2025



If you haven't done so already, book your appointment through [LoboAcheive](https://loboacheive.unm.edu) with your advisor to register for your next classes this Summer and Fall 2025.



MAY SCHOLARSHIPS



OFFICE OF NAVAJO NATION SCHOLARSHIP & FINANCIAL AID

2025-2026 Academic Year Application Opens
The online application goes live on March 15, 2025, and closes on **June 25, 2025, at 5 pm MDT**.
Submit applications & required documents by:
June 25, 2025 @ 5 pm MDT

AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

Basic Eligibility

- Be an enrolled member of a federally or state-recognized tribe, or a descendent of an enrolled member.
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00.
- Full-time enrollment at an accredited, nonprofit institution of higher learning.



**AMERICAN INDIAN
COLLEGE FUND**
EDUCATION IS THE ANSWER



DAN BEGAY FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE



This application is for the Fall 2025-Spring 2026 academic year and is intended for students seeking or completing an undergraduate or associate degree.

Deadline: June 13th, 2025 11:59PM MST

To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must meet the following pre-requisites:

- Must be an enrolled Navajo tribal member
- Required 3.0 GPA
- Must be enrolled part-time or full-time at an accredited college or university, pursuing an undergraduate or associate degree
- Must submit one introduction essay and answer two essay prompts.
- Must maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher each semester to retain the scholarship



MEMORIAL DAY IN THE UNITED STATES

What distinguishes Memorial Day from Veterans Day?

Both holidays pay tribute to individuals who have served in the United States military.

- **Memorial Day** is specifically dedicated to commemorating those who lost their lives in service during wartime.
- **Veterans Day** honors all individuals who have served in the military, regardless of their active-duty status.

Traditions:

- Visiting cemeteries and military memorials
- Placing flags on veterans graves
- Participating in local parades and ceremonies
- Flying the American flag at half-staff

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date General Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees. The change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.



NATIONAL MURDERED MISSING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE DAY

The red hand symbolizes the connection between the physical world and the spiritual world. Native Americans believe that the dead can see red, so by wearing red we invoke the help of our ancestors and spiritual guides.



IDEAS ON HOW TO PARTICIPATE AND RAISE AWARENESS:

- 1) Wear RED on May 5th and post a photo on social media with the hashtag #NationalDayofAwareness #MMNWG or #MMIW
- 2) Host a community event in your community on May 5th
- 3) Host a prayer circle or candlelight vigil on May 5th
- 4) Post a list of names of sisters missing or murdered from your community,
- 5) Create a living memorial
- 6) View the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center webinars.

May 5th marks the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, observed throughout the United States and Canada.

A meaningful way to support the MMIW movement includes raising awareness by sharing relevant stories and videos, offering support to victims, and reflecting on any personal biases or judgments.

NAVAJO NATION										MISSING PERSONS									
Paul Bessie DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Gonsky DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	Arthur A. Gonsky DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	Raymond Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	Stephen Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING	James Smith DOB: 01/19/1972 MISSING: 01/19/1972 STATUS: MISSING

According to the FBI, 177 Native Americans are missing from New Mexico and the Navajo Nation.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**Kirby
Yazzie**



**Antone
Kale**



**Diandra
James**



**Danielle
Yazzie**



**Brandon
Tate**



**Sandra
Shirley**



**Cordell
Grey**

SCHOLAR OF THE MONTH



**SHELLMARIE
SPENCER**

How does it feel to be Scholar of the Month?

"I was feeling depressed but once I heard I was scholar of the month I felt revived because I lost my aunt and my grandmother. My grandmother was the main one who pushed me to attend school."

Do you have any study habits you would recommend to other students? What are they?

"I'm more of a morning person so I just start studying in the morning. Right before I go to bed I will also read/study and I believe that helps me. I go to Starbucks and study there."

What is your favorite thing about TRIO/SSS?

"It is always open and you guys are always here. When life gets hard to handle, I get to come vent. And there is always activities to help me unwind after a long day. I enjoy the workshops and they are very helpful when I was getting into the nursing program."

Where do you plan to transfer after graduation?

"I do not plan on transferring. I am just going to take a break and come back when I am ready."

Is there someone you are particularly thankful for or would like to acknowledge?

"I would say the TRIO Staff, God, and my son."

What are 5 fun facts about you?

1. I like cooking and trying new food.
2. My favorite food: Noodles
3. I like to help people.
4. My hobby would be hanging out with my son.
5. My son and I love Olive Garden, taking day trips and stocking up at Sam's Club.



TRIO/SSS Alumni

"Success means having the courage, the determination, and the will to become the person you believe you were meant to be."

- George Sheehan



WESTERN
NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY



Triston Eriacho



Patterson Yazzie III



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW MEXICO.



A pink rose and red confetti are scattered across the top of the page. A black graduation cap with a tassel is visible on the right side.

Congratulations to our
TRIO
Student Support Services
Graduates!

20
CLASS OF **24**

CLASS
OF
2025

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

20
CLASS OF 24

NM
GALLUP

Tiffany Armijo



**CERT Nursing
with Honors**

Rayshawn Chee



AAS Automotive Technology

"Just Do It"



20
CLASS OF 24

20
CLASS OF 24



Alora Francis



**AAS General Studies
with Honors**

"Achievement Unlocked"

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

Ronda Hosteen



**AA Business Administration
with Honors**

"Everything you want is on the other side of fear,
so be fearless, love deeply, live boldly, and in a
world where you can be anything, always choose
to be kind!"



20
CLASS OF **24**



Tee-Jay Jimenez



**CERT & AAS Welding Technology
with Honors**

20
CLASS OF **24**

Laureen Sanchez



**AA Human Service -
Substance Abuse**



20
CLASS OF **24**

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

20
CLASS OF 24



Tamera Thomas



AA Early Childhood Education with Honors

"Whatever 'good' you do in your life isn't all that difficult, nor is it easy, but completing it sure makes it worthwhile and it makes you feel 'fantastic!'"

McKayla Yazzie



AA Business Administration

"You is Kind, You is Smart, and
You is Important"
-The Help



20
CLASS OF 24

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

Christopher Bettelyoun



CERT Welding Technology with Honors

"Big shout out and a huge thank you to all of the staff at TRIO. Your program is a vital source that helps students reach their goals of pursuing a higher education."



CLASS
OF
2025

CLASS
OF
2025

NM
GALLUP

Erika Chavez



AS Nursing

Myra Chee



AA & CERT Early Childhood Education

"It ain't about how hard you hit, it's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward.

How much you can take and keep moving forward. That's how winning is done!"

-Rocky



CLASS
OF
2025

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

CLASS
OF
2025



Cordell Grey



**AAS Automotive Technology
with Honors**

"Every inch adds up to miles,
Every second adds up to days,
giving thanks to my family, & my friends I made along the
way.

Special thanks to TRIO for all the help they gave."

Donald Haswood



CERT Welding Technology

"Welding is the art of shaping
metal into a masterpiece"



CLASS
OF
2025

CLASS
OF
2025

**NM
GALLUP**

C.C. Jimenez



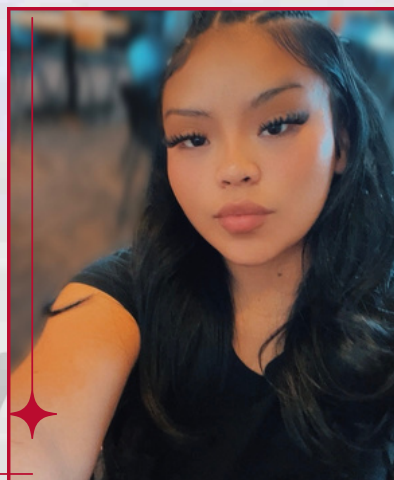
CERT Cosmetology

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

Patrina Johnson



**CERT & AA Early Childhood
Education with Honors**



**CLASS
OF
2025**

**CLASS
OF
2025**



Andrea Kee



AS Nursing

"Dreams do not come true just because you dream them. It's hard work that makes things happen. It's hard work that creates change."

—Shonda Rhimes

Savanna Largo



CERT Auto Technology



**CLASS
OF
2025**

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

CLASS
OF
2025

NM
GALLUP

Emery Laughing



**CERT Construction Technology
with Honors**

Aaliyah Livingston



CERT & AAS Welding Technology

"Change is good," -Rafiki

CLASS
OF
2025



CLASS
OF
2025



Tehyonna Nakai



AAS General Studies

"Noodle dreams"

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

CLASS
OF
2025



Aleija Nasafotie



**AA Business Administration
with Honors**

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it
is the courage to continue that counts."

Winston S. Churchill

Mallory Montano



AA Business Administration

NM
GALLUP

CLASS
OF
2025

CLASS
OF
2025



Wilbert Sandoval



**CERT & AAS
Automotive Technology**

"If you cannot do great things,
do small things in a great way."

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

CLASS
OF
2025

NM
GALLUP

Lake Tsosie



CERT Cosmotolgy

Elizabeth Yazzie



AS Science

"All our dreams can come true...
if we have the courage to pursue them."
-Walt Disney

CLASS
OF
2025



CLASS
OF
2025



Darrel Watchman



**AA Human Services - Family &
Child Studies
with Honors**

TRIO Student Support Services Graduates

Sydney Perkins



**AA Human Services -
Family & Child Studies**

"I'm not here to apologize, I'm here to celebrate."



**CLASS
OF
2025**

**CLASS
OF
2025**



Mitchell Skeets

AAS General Studies



"Look at the sky tonight, all of the stars
have a reason"
-Lil' Peep

Cherin Tewanema



AAS General Studies

"Handle success as you would handle failure."



**CLASS
OF
2025**

*We want to wish you the best in your
future endeavors!*

*May your journey be joyful and
successful, filled with memorable
experiences.*

*Embrace opportunities with an open
heart and mind and keep chasing
your dreams.*

We're cheering for you!

