Student Success - Classroom Engagement

It’s very important to make positive connections with your instructors early in the semester to help give you a better understanding of your learning environment. The following activities will help you build relationships with your instructors, assess their unique learning styles, and stay engaged in class:

* **Make an appointment in advance** – during the instructor’s office hours, if possible. This works better than taking up the instructor’s time directly after class when he or she may be in a hurry to get to another class. Most instructors are now available by e-mail as well.

* **Be prepared** - review your notes and attempt to understand the material on your own before asking the instructor for help. He or she will appreciate that you paid attention in class, made effort, and have shown interest in the subject matter.

* **Explain your circumstances** - if you have a job, kids, or other external circumstances that conflict with your homework time, be sure to explain this to the instructor. Your instructor may not be able to give you extensions on assignments, but he or she may provide you with other resources that can help you. Don’t expect your instructor to know about your unique situation unless you tell him or her. In addition the instructor may be able to make referrals to help ease your burden.

* **Take advantage of instructor review sites such as [www.ratemyprofessors.com]** - but consider them carefully. If you have a choice between instructors when registering for a class, find out if they are known for putting in extra time to help their students succeed. Be sure to indicate your level of satisfaction with an instructor when it comes time for you to submit a review. This will help future students make decisions.

FREE Fall Workshops
Register Now!!

During the fall semester there will be several excellent workshops offered by Student Support Services. These workshops are **FREE** to all students. All workshops take place in September, October and November and will be listed on the TRiO News Calendar on the back of each newsletter.

Consider enrolling - your success could depend on it!

TRiO Works!

Gateway’s TRiO program helps students:

S - Stay in college

U - Unite themselves with good grades

C - Collaborate with tutors

C - Collect Financial Aid

E - Enter courses on their schedule

E - Earn their degree or diploma

D - Desire a Bachelor’s degree next

**TRiO helps students SUCCEED!**

Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go. ~ William Feather
## SEPTEMBER 2012

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

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Your partner for college success  
www.gtc.edu/trio  

TRIO / Student Support Services is a federally funded program through the U.S. Department of Education. Federal guidelines are used to establish program eligibility.

Deaf Interpreter available upon request. Contact Alyson Urdahl (urdahla@gtc.edu) or Lisa Sadowski (sadowskil@gtc.edu)

**Key Events:**
- **23 September:** 1st batch of Financial Aid GRANT refunds sent to Gateway