Project Greater Opportunities (GO)
An Educational Talent Search TRIO Program
2004-2005 Abstract

Middle and high school students from five local districts continue to receive support from staff at Mount Wachusett Community College. The primary goal of the Educational Talent Search Grant, Project GO, is to assist participants to successfully complete middle and high school and enroll in postsecondary education programs.

Project GO offers services to six hundred (600) individuals, primarily grades six through twelve, of whom at least two-thirds must be income eligible and potential first generation college students.

Both individual counseling and group activities provide participants of Project GO with academic, career, and personal development. Workshop topics include enhancing study strategy techniques, selecting college preparation high school courses, completing career assessments, MCAS preparation, building self-esteem, preparing for the PSAT/SAT, transitioning to college, admissions procedures, and completing financial aid forms. Early College Planning workshops are held for middle school families. Leadership conferences enhance student’s preparation for postsecondary education. Students also participate in various community service activities.

Additionally, services are available to individuals who have discontinued high school, left postsecondary education programs, or who have decided not to pursue higher education.

The school districts targeted in the grant include Clinton (Clinton High School, Clinton Middle School), Fitchburg (B.F. Brown Middle School, Academy Middle School, Fitchburg High School), Gardner (Gardner Middle School, Gardner High School), Leominster (Southeast School, Samoset School, Leominster High School), and Winchendon (Murdock Middle/High School).

Specifically designed for disadvantaged students, Educational Talent Search (ETS) is one of the nationwide TRIO programs created through federal legislation nearly 40 years ago. TRIO participants represent a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Mount Wachusett Community College has administered the ETS program, Project GO for over 13 years. Project GO is 100% funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Total funding for this year is $310,000.

The staff of Project GO provides services to eligible participants. If you have a disability and may require accommodations in order to participate fully in program activities, please contact Pati Gregson, Associate Dean of the program, to discuss your specific needs at 978-630-9248.

A College Access and Preparation Program of Mount Wachusett Community College.
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