TRIO SSS STAFF

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We're just about halfway through the Spring Semester already!

Warmer weather is approaching, mid-terms are upon us, and spring break is almost here! Make sure to continue to practice self-care and stay motivated. You got this!

TRIO Counselors are always here to support you and help you meet your academic goals! Be sure to check in with your counselor as mid-terms approach to make sure you're on the right track. Keep up the GREAT WORK!
**IN THIS MONTH’S NEWSLETTER:**

Student Spotlight
Maria Rodriguez
(see page 3)

Enter our March Raffle!
(see page 4)

Scholarship Essay Workshops
(see page 6)

Reserve a study space in the HCC library or a classroom!
(see page 7)

Get Microsoft Office FOR FREE!
(see page 8)

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**JOIN US FOR Social HOUR**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 11TH AT 2:00 PM**

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS MEETING.

AFTER REGISTERING, YOU WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL CONTAINING INFO. ABOUT JOINING THE MEETING.
Name: Maria I Rodriguez  
Major: Foundations of Health

How has being a TRIO participant been helpful to you?  
"TRIO has been super supportive to me. It has provided me with tutoring for Math and Writing. They are always very encouraging, they lift us up when we are feeling down. They provide consistent support whether it's via email, Zoom or phone."

What advice would you give to other students in this remote learning environment?  
"Create a routine, get dressed as if you were going on campus. If possible find a small study space. Focus on one task at a time. JOIN a study group (very important), and communicate with your professors and peers."

How are you managing to have some fun in the midst of a pandemic?  
"I love listening to salsa and merengue Latin music; it's therapeutic to me. I spend time with my 3 grandchildren. For my downtime I like to watch TV and read."

The TRIO SSS program wants to celebrate Maria's continued involvement and success at HCC!

Set yourself up for success!

TRIO SSS offers our students the opportunity to meet weekly with math tutors, writing tutors, and learning coaches to help you meet your goals and finish the semester successfully.

Please click here to submit a Tutor/Learning Coach request form!
TRIO will be running a monthly raffle throughout the Spring 2021 semester. Read below for rules and prizes.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Giveaway prizes include:
- headphones
- wireless mouse
- mini Bluetooth speakers
- power boost portable batteries

HERE'S HOW TO ENTER!

- attend a TRIO Social Hour event
- register your next semester classes with your TRIO counselor
- attend a TRIO workshop
- sign up for Tutor or Learning Coach services

Your name will be entered for every event/activity you attend or participate in. The more opportunities you attend, the higher your chances of winning. We will be drawing a name at the end of the month, notify the winner by email, and announce them in TRIO’s monthly newsletter.

So, take advantage of as many essential services TRIO SSS has to offer and you could be our next Lucky Winner! GOOD LUCK!

FEBRUARY’S LUCKY RAFFLE WINNER:

Congratulations to TRIO student Imanol Cruz on winning our February Raffle!
Scholarship season at HCC begins **March 3rd**! We encourage ALL students to consider applying for scholarships when the application window opens.

There are over 150 scholarships available this year!

The **HCC Foundation** gives out more than $200,000 each year in scholarship support to qualified students.

THE BEST PART? Students only need to fill out **ONE** application to apply to all of the scholarship opportunities for which they qualify.

The HCC Foundation will begin accepting scholarship applications on **Wednesday, March 3rd** and the application window will close on **Friday, April 16th**.

To view scholarship opportunities available to HCC students and to access your application when the process opens, please go to: hcc.academicworks.com

If you have any questions or need assistance accessing your application after March 3rd, please reach out to the scholarship team at scholarships@hcc.edu.
Scholarship Essay Workshops

Presented by the Writing Center

Some strategies and approaches the workshops will cover are topics such as:

1) Careful attention to application requirements
2) Writing within word limit constraints
3) Tailoring the writing to a particular scholarship
4) Careful choice of written content
5) Editing and revising skills
6) Sharing the writing with those who write your letters of recommendation.
7) In addition to these workshops, the Writing Center offers online walk-in assistance for the essay portion of the application process. The Writing Center hours are M-Th 10am-7pm / Fri 9am-2pm / Sat 10am-3pm.

Schedule of Scholarship Essay Workshops

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<th>Day</th>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>March 8th</td>
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<td>Thurs.</td>
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<td>Tues.</td>
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<td>Weds.</td>
<td>March 31st</td>
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Please email Frank Johnson, Coordinator of the HCC Writing Center, at fjohnson@hcc.edu to receive a direct Zoom invitation to your workshop of choice.
TRANSFER "TRIPS"

Although we are not currently able to go on transfer trips, virtual college tours are the next best thing! Just click on the institution name to take a virtual tour of some of the best 4 year institutions Massachusetts has to offer.

University of Massachusetts Amherst
Westfield State University
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Bridgewater State University
Salem State University
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
College of the Holy Cross
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Western New England University
Bay Path University
Reserve study space in the HCC Library

Need some study time in the library lobby? Click here to request study time.

Wearing a mask and social distancing are required the entire time you are in the library. The current reservation limit is 2 time blocks per day.

Printing is now available!

Reserve an entire classroom for study time

This spring, HCC is offering a number of dedicated classrooms that students can sign up to reserve just for themselves. Students can reserve a classroom periodically as needed, or schedule to have it regularly throughout the semester for one or more days.

Click here to reserve your classroom space.
It's time to renew your FAFSA!

The FAFSA renewal application for the 2021/2022 year opened on October 1st!

Students who are eligible to receive financial aid must file a new FAFSA each year. The earlier you file, the more money you could get!

Contact your TRIO Counselor if you need help with your FAFSA!

Students and educators at eligible institutions can sign up for Office 365 Education for free, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, and now Microsoft Teams, plus additional classroom tools. All you need is an HCC student email address.

Click here to get Office 365 for free!
CHROMEBOOKS, LAPTOPS, HOTSPOTS, AND CALCULATORS

You can request a Chromebook, laptop, wi-fi hotspot, and/or calculator from the library.

Click here for an up-to-date count of available devices and make a request.

TRIO SSS has a limited amount of laptops available for TRIO students in need. Please fill out this form if you are in need of a laptop and your assigned TRIO Counselor will assist you with the process.

Also, please contact your counselor if you need a scientific calculator (quantities are limited).
THRIVE Center
Are you dealing with homelessness or legal issues? Are you struggling with food insecurity? Do you think you qualify for SNAP or MassHealth benefits? Need help balancing your budget? Have questions about managing your credit? The Thrive Center can help!

The Food Pantry is offering food pickup by appointment only from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Monday - Friday at the bus circle. (If coming to campus is not an option for you, please contact Thrive to discuss possible alternatives.)

Click here for more information on how to pick up food from HCC's food pantry.

Student Emergency Fund
If you are struggling financially, the President's Student Emergency Fund can help! This fund assists HCC students who encounter unforeseen financial emergencies that would prevent them from continuing their education. The COVID-19 pandemic has made these emergencies even more prevalent, but funding is available to help you overcome barriers related to housing, food, utilities, transportation and childcare.

The application takes just a few minutes to complete and is reviewed within 48 hours. Students receive the support they need -- or are directed to other resources -- within a few days. The application form and details can be found on the President's Student Emergency Fund webpage.