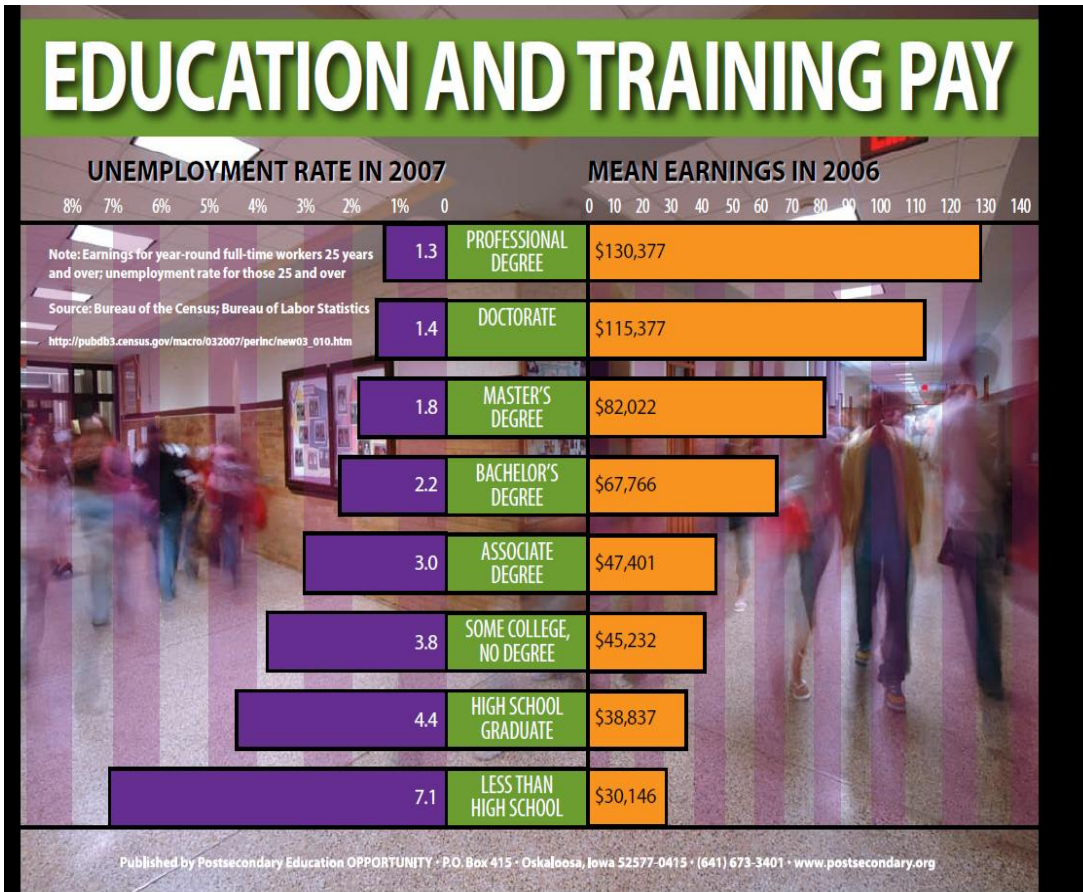




Legislative Update

March 2009

Welcome to the second edition of the Ohio TRIO Legislative Update. Ohio TRIO will provide monthly updates to our state and federal legislators on behalf of the over 25,000 first-generation, low income students TRIO Programs serve in Ohio. March's edition focuses on how TRIO programs are a critical partner in working toward economic prosperity in Ohio. Please send comments, feedback and submissions to dlawless@kent.edu or fax 330-672-5339.



Socioeconomic barriers significantly impact a person's ability to contribute to society. Educational attainment and access to education are two factors that can transform a person's ability to achieve wealth and improve their socioeconomic conditions.

TRIO Programs work directly to increase access to and graduation from educational institutions. From middle school students to adults to veterans, TRIO programs are one of many engines that can move Ohio's economy forward through educational achievement and access.



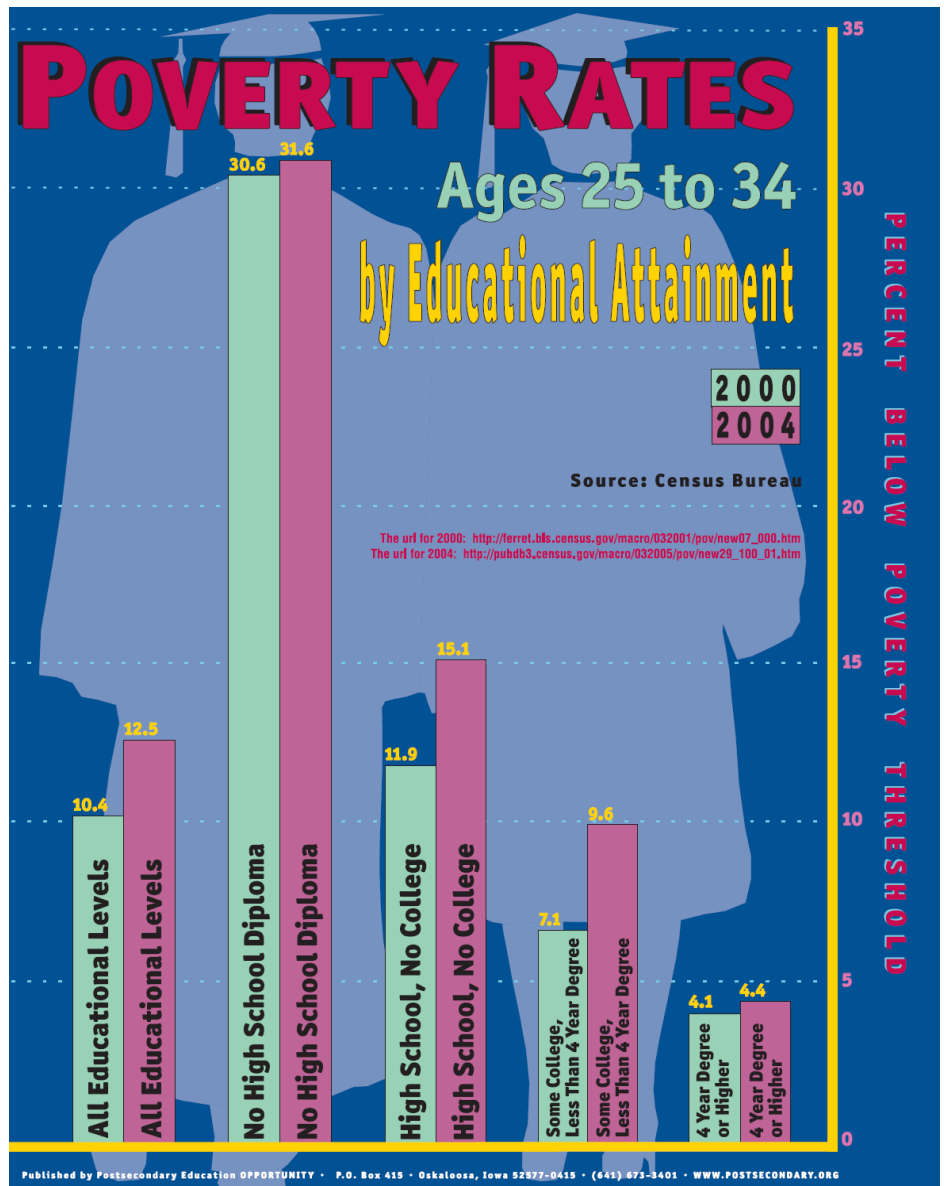
Our Ohio TRIO Star this month is Dee Standish, Director Talent Search, Washington State Community College, Marietta, Ohio.

Her leadership and services worked toward great results. The WSCC Talent Search program graduated 100% of their 2008 senior class, 110 seniors. Of those 110 seniors, 83% enrolled directly into postsecondary education.

As evidenced by the graph, poverty rates directly correlate to educational attainment. For this reason, TRIO programs were created in the mid-1960's to target families who are the first to attend college and are low income.

Ohio's TRIO programs provide advising, rigorous academic preparation, financial aid information, personal support, and guidance to assist first-generation, low income Ohioans break cycles of poverty.

Ohio TRIO Programs often partner with other state agencies, community groups, and institutions to provide the best opportunity for participants to succeed.



SAVE THE DATES:

- TRIO Federal Policy Day, March 24, Washington, DC
- TRIO Access & Success Partners Breakfast, April 1, Columbus, Ohio
- TRIO Ohio TRIO Professional Conference, April 19 – 21, 2009
- TRIO Ohio TRIO Student Leadership Conference, April 24 – 26, 2009

OHIO TRIO FACT

In 2007, 94% of TRIO high school participants graduated from high school. Of those graduates, 90% enrolled into programs of postsecondary education.