



FACTBOOK 2021-2022



ASOCIACIÓN CARIBEÑA DE PROGRAMAS
DE OPORTUNIDADES EDUCATIVAS

CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

Puerto Rico & Virgin Islands

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year has brought some significant challenges to all of us. From health and security issues, to lack of technology supplies and connection that has made this journey quite difficult. Our island serves over 15,000 students from underrepresented backgrounds, and this pandemic has made our TRIO community stronger and even more necessary while proving how essential the access to education is through this critical time. Each of the 42 funded programs in Puerto Rico ensures educational opportunity services that result in success stories of the alumni like the ones included in this factbook.

I can proudly say that TRIO programs in Puerto Rico have emerged from the crisis and have ensured that every participant has access to the needed services to achieve not only their goals but their dreams. Being able to work among an amazing group of professionals throughout so many changes has been one of the most amazing experiences as a leader.

We invite the reader to take a glance out of the great stories, achievements, and statistics that can confirm that even in the hardships, TRIO works!

Fabiola A. Falto Castro
PRESIDENT



WHAT IS

TRIO?

The TRIO Programs are federal outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds in their pursuit of a college degree. Although the name “TRIO” initially came into use after the first three programs were authorized under the Higher Education Act, there are currently eight distinct programs that comprise the federal TRIO programs. Each plays a unique role in providing educational opportunity for eligible students.

These programs targeted to serve, motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Also, they assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, individuals with disabilities, home-less youth, those in foster care, English as a second language learners and other disconnected students to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post baccalaureate programs. TRIO programs provide academic tutoring, personal counseling, mentoring, financial guidance, and other supports necessary for educational access and retention. TRIO also includes a training program for directors and staff of TRIO projects.

In Puerto Rico, we have 42 TRIO programs, and we have representation from each of the federal programs.

- Regular Upward Bound
- Upward Bound Math & Science
- Veterans’ Upward Bound
- Talent Search
- Student Support Services -STEM and ESL
- Educational Opportunity Centers
- Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement

TRIO

TRIO

UPWARD BOUND

Upward Bound is part of the TRIO Programs funded under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and amended in 2008. Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits.

Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. There are two categories under this program: Upward Bound Math and Science, that prepare students in careers in Science and Mathematics; and Veterans Upward Bound, that prepare returning veterans to enter colleges and obtain a postsecondary degree.

Services:

Academic instruction and tutoring in Mathematics thru Pre calculus, Laboratory Sciences, Composition, Literature, and Foreign Languages, Guidance and counseling, mentoring, cultural enrichment, work-study programs, education designed to improve the financial and economic literacy of students; programs and activities previously mentioned that are specially designed for students who are: limited English proficient, traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education, students with disabilities, students who are homeless children and youths, students who are in foster care or are aging out of foster care system and/or other disconnected students.

INSTITUTION	PARTICIPANTS	BUDGET
ASPIRA, Inc. of Puerto Rico	78	\$399,574.00
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ Barranquitas	144	\$661,333.00
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ Ponce	85	\$395,076.00
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ San German	106	\$514,967.00
LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc./ Puerto Rico	63	\$312,480.00
Pontifical Catholic University	60	\$297,601.00
Pontifical Catholic University/ Puerto Rico	76	\$403,998.00
Puerto Rico Academy of Medical Directors	60	\$297,601.00
Universidad del Sagrado Corazon	82	\$343,981.00
Universidad Del Turabo	110	\$466,402.00
Universidad Metropolitana/ Bayamon University Center	50	\$297,599.00
University of Puerto Rico/ Humacao	65	\$312,480.00
University of Puerto Rico/ Rio Piedras	88	\$424,198.00
TOTAL	1067	\$5,127,290.00



LI+FG PARTICIPANT SERVED: 75%



RIGOROUS SECONDARY SCHOOL: 98%



CUMULATIVE GPA 2.5 +: 85%



POST SECONDARY ENROLLMENT: 84%



RETENTION: 98%



P.S. GRADUATION IN SIX YEARS: 54%

TRIO

TALENT SEARCH

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INSTITUTION	PARTICIPANTS	BUDGET
ASPIRA INC. of Puerto Rico	1700	\$873,652.00
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ Ponce	500	\$277,375.00
Universidad del Turabo	800	\$443,801.00
University of Puerto Rico/ Rio Piedras	1046	\$580,270.00
TOTAL	4046	\$2,175,098.00



LI+FG PARTICIPANT SERVED: 70%



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES: 27%



RETENTION: 59%



POST SECONDARY ENROLLMENT: 21%

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

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Services:

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INSTITUTION	PARTICIPANTS	BUDGET	PROJECT TYPE
American University of Puerto Rico	140	\$261,888.00	Regular
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ Aguadilla	227	\$367,635.00	Regular
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ Baranquitas	144	\$261,888.00	Regular
San Juan University College	315	\$385,424.00	Regular
Universidad Adventista De Las Antillas	140	\$261,888.00	ESL
Universidad Adventista De Las Antillas	140	\$261,888.00	Regular
Universidad Del Sagrado Corazon	618	\$682,195.00	Regular
Universidad del Sagrado Corazon	100	\$261,888.00	Disabled
Universidad Del Turabo/ Gurabo	283	\$345,825.00	Regular
Universidad Metropolitana	215	\$347,999.00	Regular
Universidad Politécnica De Puerto Rico	140	\$261,888.00	STEM
Universidad Politécnica De Puerto Rico	140	\$261,888.00	ESL
Universidad Politecnica De Puerto Rico/ San Juan	237	\$354,936.00	Regular
University of Puerto Rico	412	\$438,714.00	Regular
University of Puerto Rico/ Arecibo	221	\$366,187.00	Regular
University of Puerto Rico/ Humacao	300	\$414,828.00	Regular
TOTAL	3772	\$5,536,959.00	



LI+FG PARTICIPANTS SERVED: 76%



DISABLED PARTICIPANTS SERVED: 1%



GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING: 94%



P.S. GRADUATION IN SIX YEARS: 51%



RETENTION: 86%

TRIO

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER

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Services:

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INSTITUTION	PARTICIPANTS	BUDGET
Inter American Univeristy of Puerto Rico/ Arecibo	1950	\$602,529.00
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ Barranquitas	1000	\$273,793.00
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ San German	1000	\$272,579.00



LI+FG PARTICIPANT SERVED: 70%



APPLIED TO COLLEGE: 75%



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES: 60%



POST SECONDARY ENROLLMENT: 79%



FAFSA COMPLETED: 98%

TRIO

RONALD E. MCNAIR POSTBACCALAUREATE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Upward Bound is part of the TRIO Programs funded under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and amended in 2008. Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits.

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Services:

Academic instruction and tutoring in Mathematics thru Pre calculus, Laboratory Sciences, Composition, Literature, and Foreign Languages, Guidance and counseling, mentoring, cultural enrichment, work-study programs, education designed to improve the financial and economic literacy of students; programs and activities previously mentioned that are specially designed for students who are: limited English proficient, traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education, students with disabilities, students who are homeless children and youths, students who are in foster care or are aging out of foster care system and/or other disconnected students.

INSTITUTION	PARTICIPANTS	BUDGET
Inter American University of Puerto Rico/ San Germán	33	\$239,981



LI+FG PARTICIPANT SERVED: 66%



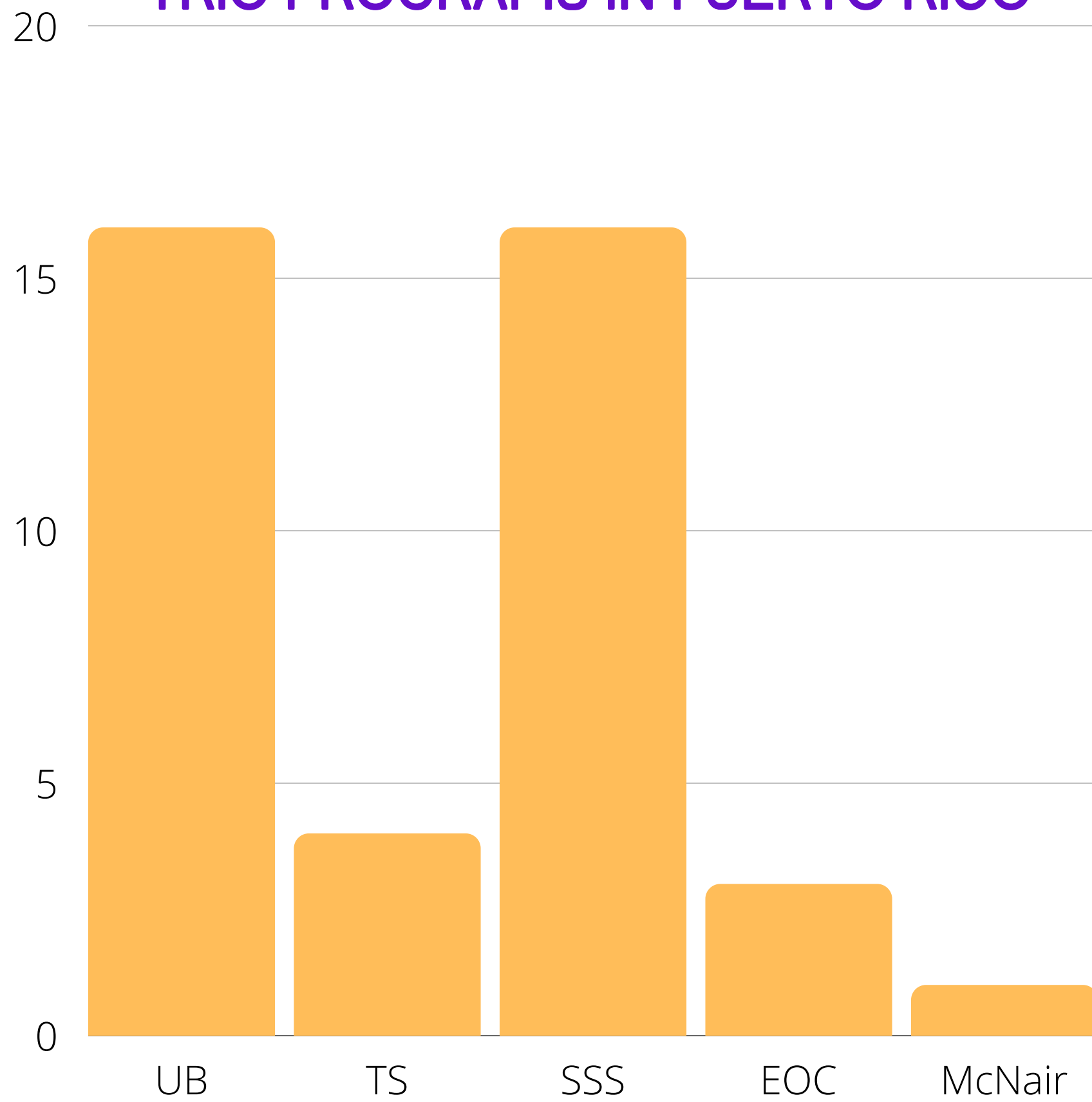
PB GRADUATE SCHOOL
ENROLLMENT: 31%



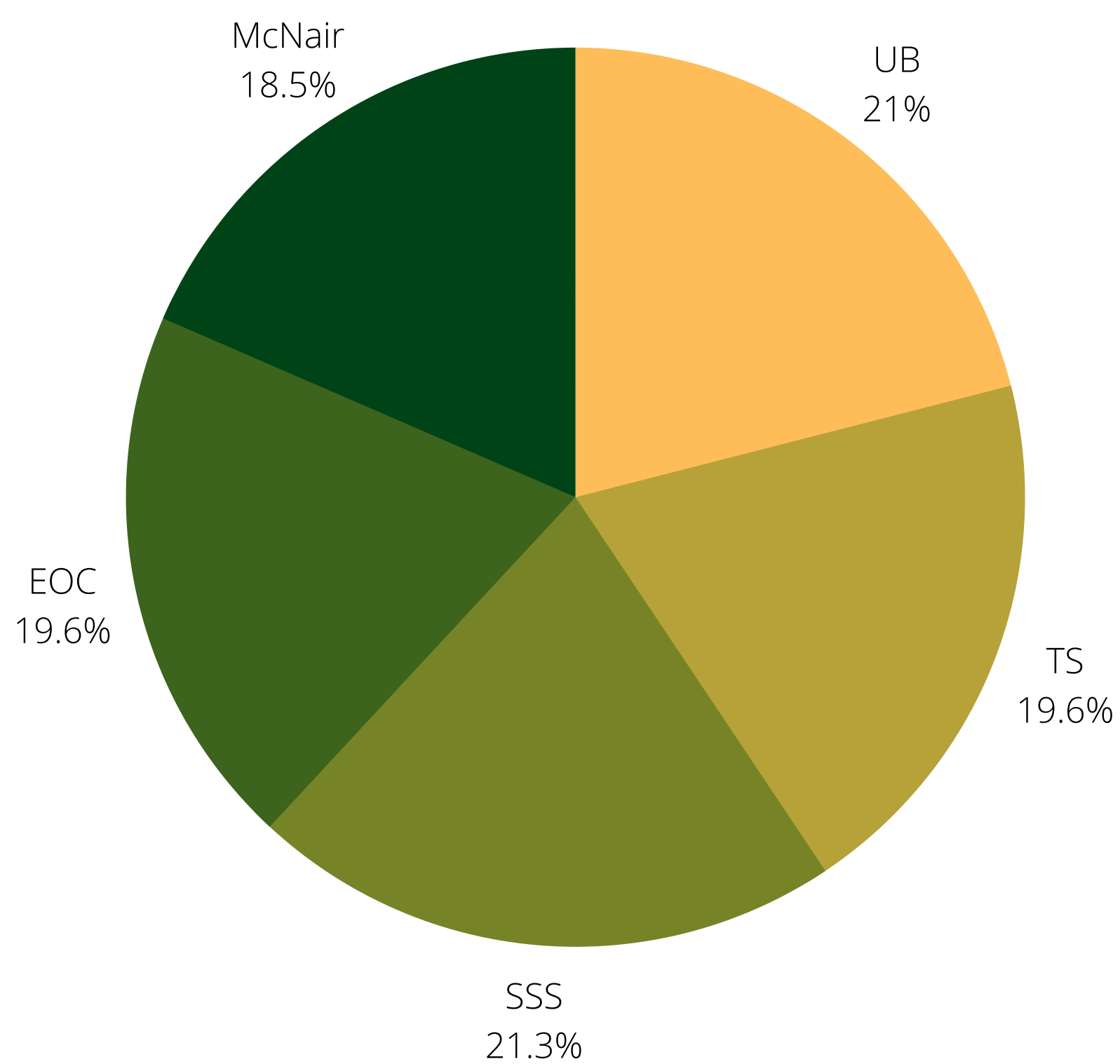
PBP—CONTINUED ENROLLMENT IN
GRADUATE SCHOOL: 100%

STATISTICS

TRIO PROGRAMS IN PUERTO RICO

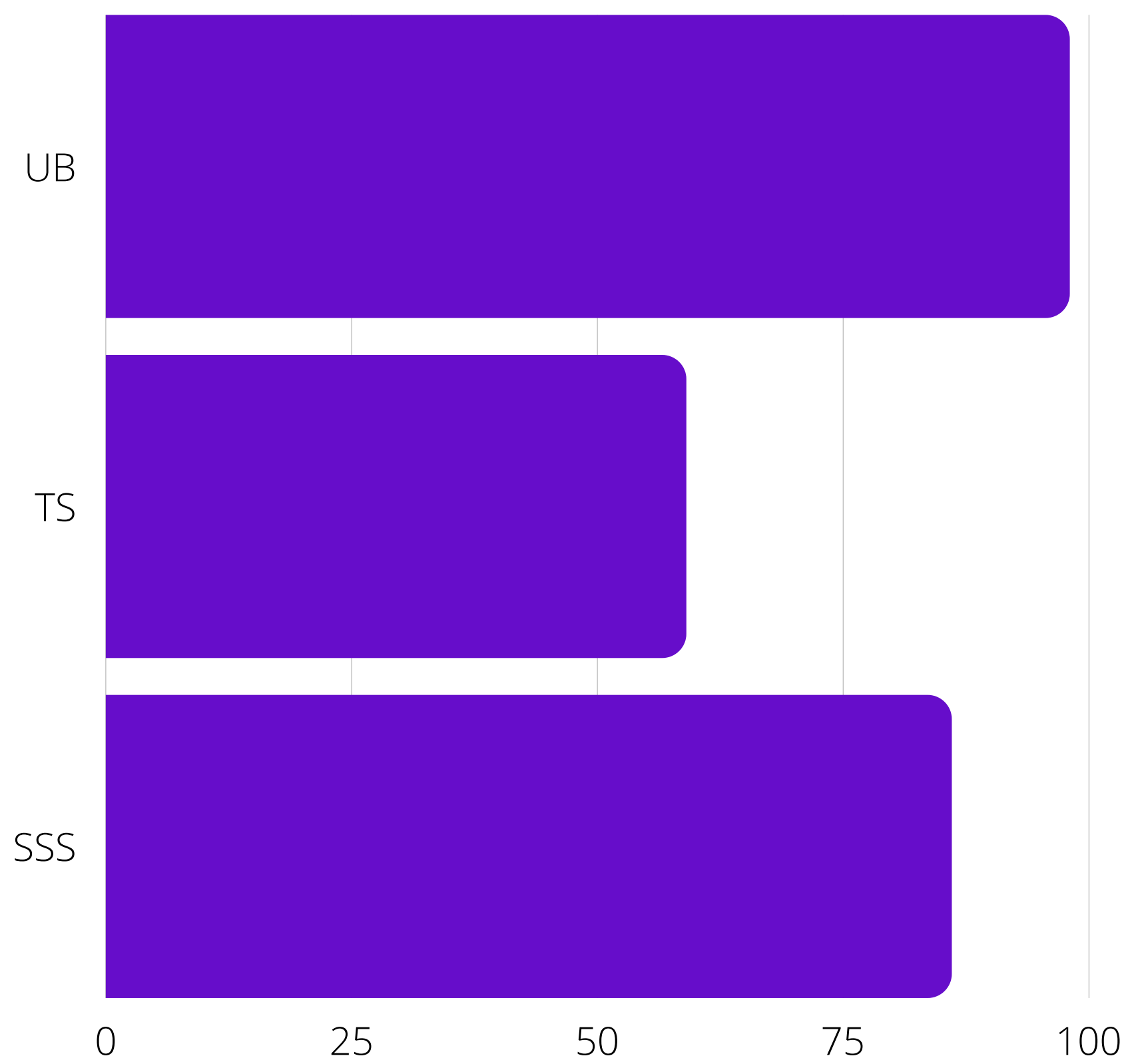


FG + LI PARTICIPANTS BY PROGRAMS

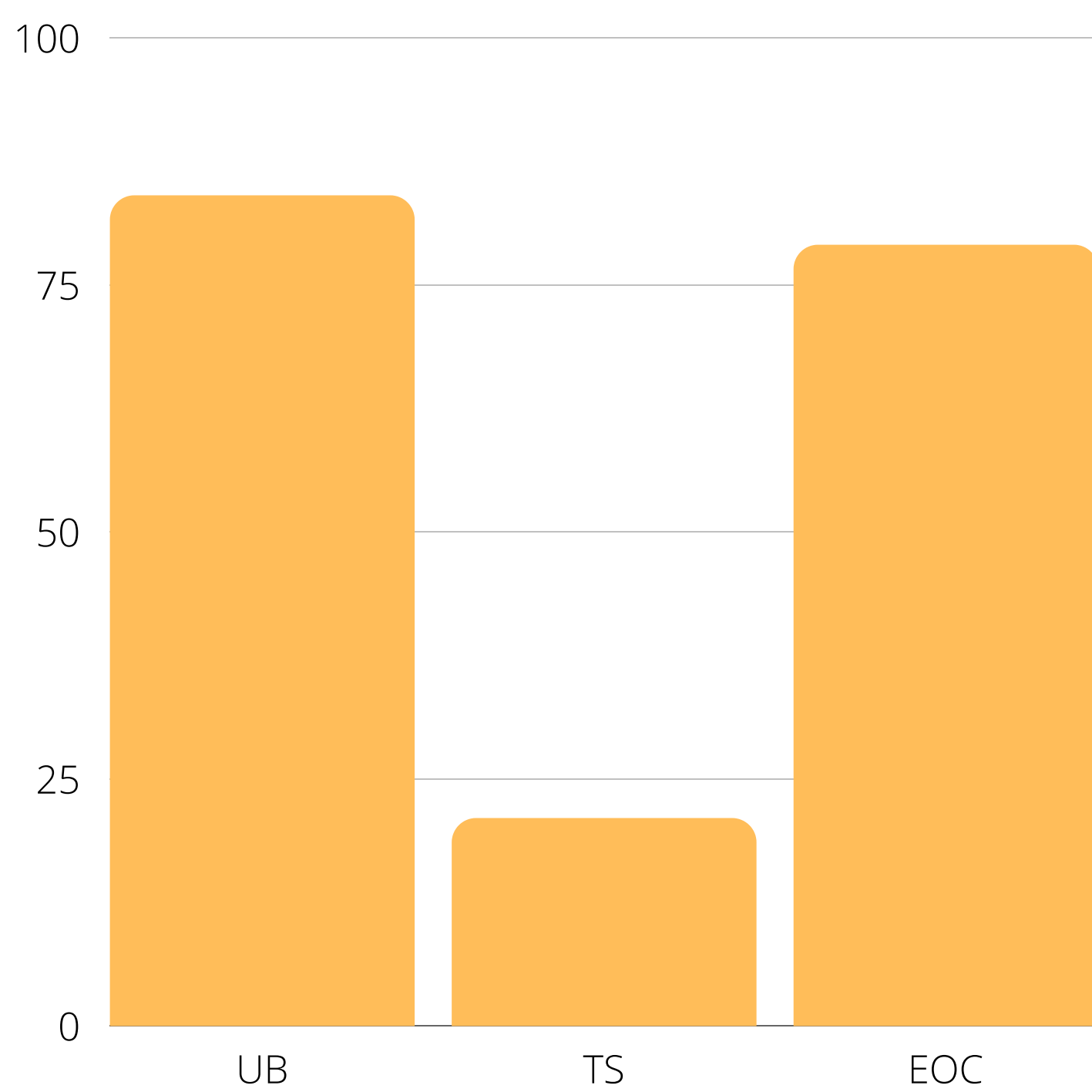


STATISTICS

RETENTION RATES BY PROGRAM



PS ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM





SUCCESS STORIES



CHRISTOPHER A. SAMBOLÍN PÉREZ
MCNAIR - UIPR SAN GERMÁN

While Christopher was on our program, we developed a great deal of respect for this remarkable young man. Despite having a few other responsibilities, he excelled in all academic fields. He was admitted to our Institution in August 2014 and in September 2016 he became part of our program. Christopher was a Microbiology major and completed research about: "Identification and development of methods of prevention against the etiological agent *Premma* sp."

He had the opportunity to attend several conferences and workshops related to his area of studies. Christopher went beyond McNair requirements, putting in a lot of research and attending office hours every week. He demonstrated great perseverance and initiative. Not only was he interested and motivated to learn the new things, but he also great work into assimilating it to his own experience.

In 2021, Christopher completed a master's degree in Plant Biotechnology at IAU - Barranquitas. He is currently working on his PhD in International Biotechnology and has received very important recognitions and awards throughout the years, such as the Inter-American University Scholarship 2021 and the Sandy M. Mayol Foundation Research.



SUCCESS STORIES



ALEXIS RODRÍGUEZ CRUZ
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES - ESL
ANTILLEAN UNIVERSITY

Alexis Rodríguez Cruz, fue uno de nuestros estudiantes destacados en el programa durante sus cuatro años de estudio. Inició como participante de nuestro primer programa Summer Bridge para el verano del 2016. Como estudiante primera generación, Alexis se destacó por su disposición a aprender y aprovechar cada oportunidad durante sus años de estudio. Además de ser participante del programa, sirvió como tutor en las materias de ciencias y matemáticas.

Cuatro años más tarde completó su Bachillerato en Ciencias con concentración en Biología, recibiendo distinciones honoríficas por su desempeño académico y crecimiento como individuo. Actualmente, Alexis está por concluir una maestría en Ciencias en Higiene Industrial en la Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Ciencias Médicas. Como estudiante graduado, se ha destacado en aportar al crecimiento del recinto como recurso para realizar investigaciones y adiestramientos comunitarios en la Isla.

Además, aporta sus conocimientos y expertise en el área de tecnología para identificar nuevas herramientas y aplicaciones que avancen las ciencias de la higiene industrial. Sin duda, Alexis es un orgulloso egresado TRIO.



SUCCESS STORIES



JESADY CASTILLO PEÑA
TALENT SEARCH, UPWARD BOUND
& STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO - RIO PIEDRAS

I am Jesady N. Castillo Peña, living proof that TRIO works. Let me tell you my story. I am the product of the public school system, starting at San Agustín elementary school, followed by José Celso Barbosa junior high and finishing with Ramón Vilá Mayo high school. It was in junior high that I joined my first TRIO program, Talent Search, during my seventh and eighth grades. In this program, I was able to experience firsthand what it was like to participate of the opportunities they offered. I was able to take workshops, go on field trips, and even take tutoring sessions when I needed them.

While still at José Celso Barbosa, the Upward Bound program came to my school to give us an orientation of their services and I liked what I heard. Besides, I have always loved everything school related, so I applied to be a part of Upward Bound. This is how UB guided me on the goal of getting into college from an early age. Among the benefits they provided, we had Saturday classes, tutoring, counseling, summer camp, field trips and educational trips. Thanks to Upward Bound I was able to visit Boston, Massachusetts and Atlanta, Georgia. Also, the connections and friendships that I made during the four years that I was in the program was like an extended family, they welcomed us and guided us through all these processes. Thanks to them I can proudly say that I was able to enroll in the college of my dreams: the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus.

At the UPRRP I studied Social Work with a certification in Education. And throughout this college process TRIO didn't leave me as I was also part of Student Support Services (known as PSAE for its Spanish acronym). PSAE supported me with counseling, study hall, help with my course selections, enroll in special sections assigned specifically to program participants, tutoring, and even a trip to New York, with the purpose of visiting several campuses where I could continue graduate work. The truth is that my path through these programs has been a long, enriching one, full of much learning and many opportunities.

In May 2021 I completed a bachelor's degree in Social Work with a certification in Education and I am currently a social worker at the Department of Education as well as an online social worker on the 939-CONTIGO hotline. My future goals include starting my master's degree (still undecided between law, psychology or clinical social work), have a stable job and above all, in both aspects be able to experience and see my growth as a professional. I cannot finish this story without saying that I am where I am thanks to the support and guidance that TRIO provided me in this whole process. They held me, helped me and gave me the push I needed with all my ideas. They gave them shape and a sense of being. I will be forever grateful to the family and mentoring that I gained with these programs.

OUR ALUMNI



KIMBERLY SANTOS AVILÉS
MCNAIR
UIPR - SAN GERMÁN



LUIS D. O. TORRES ESTEVES
MCNAIR
UIPR - SAN GERMÁN



JOSÉ VEGA ECHEVARRÍA
UPWARD BOUND
UIPR PONCE



PAULINA VELEZ
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES- ESL
ANTILLEAN UNIVERSITY



YANELIS BEAUCHAMP
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES- ESL
ANTILLEAN UNIVERSITY



NATALIA THURSTON
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
COLEGIO UNIVERSITARIO DE SAN JUAN



DAISY MELÉNDEZ
UPWARD BOUND
UPR - RÍO PIEDRAS

NATIONAL TRIO DAY



Aixa Vázquez / Titi Aixax

February 25 at 12:33 PM · Instagram · 🌐

Me uno a la celebración del Día Nacional TRIO... un programa dirigido a brindar oportunidades educativas a jóvenes desventajados que aspiran a ser primeros universitarios en su familia (como fui yo hace más de 20 años). Gracias a Trinairis Díaz Zapata del Programa Upward Bound de la Universidad del Sagrado Corazón, mi alma mater, por obsequiarme este calzado personalizado. [#trioprworks](#) [#nationaltrioday](#)



Juan Vélez

February 26 at 9:43 PM · Instagram · 🌐

Hoy voy pisando fuerte, luciendo unas tennis confeccionadas por uno de los estudiantes del programa TRIO . Estos brindan oportunidades educativas y desarrollo a muchos jovenes que no cuentan con los recursos necesarios.

Es por eso que hoy me voy de jangueo con mis tennis a celebrar el [#nationaltrioday](#) [#trioprworks](#)

Cuenten Conmigo Siempre!! 😊

@interponce



Ada Monzon

February 25 at 3:50 PM · 🌐

¡Hoy es el Día Nacional de Trio! Celebro los estudiantes y profesores que hacen un impacto positivo a través de los programas educativos. Estas tenis fueron diseñadas por uno de los estudiantes del programa que me la regaló, y recoge mi espíritu científico con el tema aeroespacial en [Noticentro por WAPA](#) y el [EcoExploratorio: Museo de Ciencias de PR](#) [#trioprworks](#) [#nationaltrioday](#)

SUMMARY

THE HISTORY OF THE CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

The first TRIO programs were approved under the U.S. Congress Educational Opportunities Law in 1964. Prior to that law, the Upward Bound program was already established in the United States and, when the law was enacted two additional programs were created under that legislation: Student Support Services and Talent Search.

In Puerto Rico, the first Program started services at the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, in the Barranquitas and San Germán Campuses, in 1965. After that, several programs were developed in different institutions: Aspira of Puerto Rico Talent Search Program, Student Support Services at the University of Puerto Rico in Río Piedras, the Upward Bound Program at Sacred Heart University, and in 1973, the Aspira of P.R.

Veterans Upward Bound. Later on, more programs were approved to provide services to Puerto Rican communities. Programs established belonged to Region II of the former Department of Health and Well-Being that included New York, New Jersey, U.S. Virgin Islands, Panamá, and Puerto Rico.

Region II authorized the selection of two representatives from Puerto Rico as a mechanism to facilitate the direct communication with the programs. The Association for Excellence and Equality in Education, known as AEEE, was established in the United States. It grouped TRIO professionals in New York and New Jersey. Due to the ties to the Puerto Rican community, some directors of TRIO programs in Puerto Rico became members of AEEE. Taking advantage of the AEEE, a proposal for creating an organization that dealt with the needs of the Caribbean area was presented in the directors' meeting of TRIO programs in Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands. The directors of TRIO programs in Puerto Rico met and voted in favor of its incorporation through an organization that would serve as a link to exchange impressions and ideas about the effective administration of TRIO Programs in Puerto Rico. To that effect, The Caribbean Association of TRIO Programs of Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands was incorporated through the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as the organization that groups the directors of TRIO programs in Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands; created in 1979.

The Caribbean Association of TRIO Programs began the process to join the National Council of Educational Opportunity Associations (NCEO) of which it has been part ever since. The NCEO changed its name to Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) to broaden the scope of its work.

In 2011, the Caribbean Association of TRIO Programs changed its name to Caribbean Association of Educational Opportunity Programs to include other Programs such as, Gear UP, and other state and institutional funded programs with similar educational objectives as the TRIO Programs.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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MAYRA ROZADA
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

