TRiO Student Support Services (SSS)

TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) is a federally funded program designed to provide a variety of free services to help students complete an associate degree and move on to a bachelor degree. Students must meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. First Generation – Neither parent received a four-year college degree before the student was 18-years old, and/or
2. Low Income Student – Student is receiving federal financial aid such as a Pell grant or the student’s household taxable income meets federal guidelines, and/or
3. Disability – The student has a disability that has been documented through DSU’s Disability Resource Center.

Student Support Services is comprised of students from the following ethnic backgrounds: 42% of SSS participants are of ethnic origin.

Performance Objectives for the 2016-2017 program year

All three objectives of the DSU SSS program’s purpose are to provide opportunities for academic development to assists 200 eligible students with basic college requirements and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of their post secondary education. The objectives are to:

1. increase the college retention and graduation rates of participants;
2. increase the transfer rate of SSS participants from 2-year to 4-year institutions; and
3. improve the financial literacy and economic literacy of participants including basic personal income, household money management and financial planning skills and basic economic decision making skills.

The DSU SSS project will achieve the following objectives specifically to meet the needs identified of SSS participants. These objectives meet the four goals established by the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA).

1. **PERSISTENCE RATE**
   50% of all participants served by the SSS project will persist from one academic year to the beginning of the next academic year or graduate and/or transfer from a 2-year to a four-year institution during the academic year.
   
   **DSU SSS Retention rate – 89%**

2. **GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING RATE:**
   70% of all enrolled participants served by the SSS project will meet the performance level required to stay in good academic standing (2.0 GPA) at Dixie State University.
DSU SSS Good Academic Standing Rate – 89%

3. GRADUATION AND TRANSFER RATE:
45% of new participants served each year will graduate with an associate degree or certificate within four (4) years.

DSU SSS Associates degree Graduation Rate – 68%
40% of new participants served each year will transfer with an associate degree or certificate within four (4) years.

DSU SSS Transfer Rate – 57%

The funded grant amount for the 2017-2018 year was $326,536. Of that amount, more than $39,350 was awarded to students in the form of a Participation Grant and $22,580 in indirect costs went directly into DSU funds as the sponsor of the grant.