The TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) program is funded through the US Department of Education. The primary goal of the SSS program is to assist first-generation, low-income and disabled students with obtaining their associate in arts degree at Miami Dade College (MDC) and transfer to a four-year institution of their choice. The TRIO initiatives are designed to motivate students and increase their ability to achieve academic success. The services provided in this program includes: developmental academic advising; financial aid counseling; guidance on selecting careers; tutoring; mentoring opportunities; assistance with applying for college scholarships; cultural enrichment activities; and life skill workshops to address the academic and social needs of students.

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P.E.N. Mission Statement

The purpose of the TRIO Student Support Services Peer Empowerment Network (PEN) is to provide students with the opportunity to identify with other students in the program. Students will increase their involvement with the Miami Dade College while at the same time, enhancing their overall collegiate experience. The PEN program initiative will focus on establishing a network among students that share similar interests and goals, develop cultural awareness, and provide an academic support system to motivate students through their progression in their studies.

Benefits of P.E.N. Program

- Gain valuable personal and professional skills in areas of interpersonal relations
- Develop effective oral and written communication skills
- Enhancing your decision-making and problem-solving skills
- Develop leadership skills
- Develop organization skills
- Develop effective citizenship
- Diversifying your cultural awareness
- Networking with other students
- Defining Career goals
- Time management
- Improving your academic performance
- Receive information on various departments and events occurring on campus.
- Assist students with understanding the benefits of attending college and pursuing a college degree beyond Miami Dade College.

P.E.N. Program Objectives

The programs and activities established through the TRIO staff, with the assistance of students, faculty, and other community partners, will serve as tools to assist students with reaching their academic goals at Miami Dade College North Campus and beyond.

Come and join the TRIO Student Support Service Peer Empowerment Network and explore the opportunities to become more acquainted with your fellow peers in the program, become a peer mentor, strengthen your academic performance, and connect with other staff and faculty members in the North Campus community. If you are interested in joining PEN, you may sign-up through this link: TRIOSSSPEN@YAHOOGROUPS.COM or contact the TRIO SSS Department @ 305-237-1333/305-237-1173.