

March 2, 2026

To All Parent and Students,

Thank you for your interest in the Talent Search program. Talent Search is a federally funded program designed to help students complete high school and enroll in / graduate from a post-secondary institution.

We provide the following services: tutoring, career planning, ACT Prep, GPA monitoring, high school planning, help with class selection, personal - academic - social counseling, financial literacy, financial aid information and assistance, college application assistance, study skills, time management, priorities, note taking, test taking, and much more.

During the academic school year, students will meet with their Talent Search Adviser to address any issues they may be having as well as learn about our Talent Search curriculum. Tutoring is available afterschool for those students who need it.

Students will also have the opportunity to attend several college visits each year. On these days, students will visit area TCATs, colleges and universities, tour the dorms, tour the campuses, and eat in the college cafeterias. Students will also be able to attend cultural trips, such as museum visits, theaters and plays, etc.

ALL of these services are provided FREE of charge to ALL Talent Search students.

Talent Search is a great program, which will go above and beyond the call of duty to help each student achieve their goals.

Please fill this application out correctly and completely, as we cannot process it until every portion of it is complete.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or the Talent Search Adviser at your school. I have listed all contact numbers below for your convenience.

Jenny Collins-King—serving Jellico School - (423) 307-9547

Mitchell Tolliver—serving Harlan County High - (606) 671-7484

Anna Voges— serving Pineville School and Middlesboro - (606) 670-8504

Darlene Ellis— serving Claiborne High and Cumberland Gap High - (423) 626-3532, ext. 2313

Melissa Troutman— serving Campbell County High - (423) 437-7421

Sincerely,



David Alvis, TRIO Director

Program Application 26/27



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY—advisers complete this box before you submit this application for approval. Please ensure the boxes are correct **BEFORE** you check them. SS# _____ - _____ - _____

FG LI BOTH OTHER

HR reason: _____

Student Information

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Current GPA: _____

Current Grade: ___ 8 ___ 9 ___ 10 ___ 11 ___ 12 Sex: Male ___ Female ___

What school do you currently attend? _____

Student Email Address (if any) _____

Student Cell Phone # (if any) _____

Are you a citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States? ___ Yes ___ No

Are you Hispanic or Latino? ___ Yes ___ No

Please select which ethnicity applies to you: ___ American Indian / Alaskan Native
___ Asian ___ Black/African American ___ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
___ White ___ Two or more races

Are you currently being served by another TRIO program? ___ No ___ Yes (Gear Up)
___ Yes (Talent Search) ___ Yes (Upward Bound) ___ Yes (other) please list _____

If you had to start college tomorrow and skip high school completely, what college would you attend? _____

What are your plans after high school? ___ College (Master's Degree plus)
___ College (Bachelor's Degree)
___ College (Associate's Degree)
___ TCAT / Vocational or Technical School
___ Military first, then college
___ Straight to work, then college
___ Other (explain) _____

Please list any school clubs you are a member of or any after school activities you participate in such as Band, ROTC, etc: _____

Needs Assessment

Which of the following can Talent Search help you with this year? (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Advising | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Literacy | <input type="checkbox"/> ACT Prep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applying for college | <input type="checkbox"/> Goal Setting | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Trips |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career Exploration | <input type="checkbox"/> Study Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> College Visits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College Preparation | <input type="checkbox"/> College Applications | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAFSA Completion | <input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Aid Assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Time Management | |

What barriers do you see that might affect you going to college? Financial Family
 Grades Self-Esteem Work Anxiety Other: please list _____

How motivated are you to go to college? Very Somewhat Unsure

Why are you interested in joining Talent Search?

Program Commitment

#1 Do you commit to meet with your Talent Search Adviser in your high school every week during the school year and submit any requested forms such as grade cards, program forms, etc? Yes No



Parent Information this part is to be completed by a custodial birth parent, adoptive parent, or legal guardian only).

Parent # 1 / Legal Guardian Name: _____

Phone # _____ Email Address: (if any) _____

Parent # 2 / Legal Guardian Name (if any): _____

Phone # _____ Email Address: (if any) _____

Parent Information (cont'd) (this part is to be completed by a custodial birth parent, adoptive parent, or legal guardian only).

This box is for office use only—Adviser Notes:

Student Lives With (check only ONE)

- Two Parent Household
- Both Parents Joint Custody (Divorced)
- Single Parent Mother
- Single Parent Father
- Legal Guardian (Relationship to student) _____

Is the student a foster child/ward of the court? Yes No Homeless? Yes No

Did either parent(s) / guardian with which the child lives graduate from a four (4) year college and receive a Bachelor's Degree? Yes No

Did you file income taxes for the tax year 2025? Yes (if yes, answer **box A** below)
 No (if no, answer **box B** below)

A What is the amount on **line 15** of your **2025** income tax return form 1040? \$ _____
 # of tax exemptions claimed _____ (# parents + # dependent children, etc)

B What is your family's taxable income per year? (please check only one below)

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$23,940 or less | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40,981 - \$49,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$66,541 - \$75,060 | Income guidelines effective as of January 13, 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$23,941- \$32,460 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$49,501 - \$58,020 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,061 - \$83,580 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$32,461 - \$40,980 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$58,021 - \$66,540 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$83,581 or above | |

Total # of people currently living in your household (this includes anyone living with you who receives 1/2 of their support from you).

What was your primary source of income? Wages from job(s) Social Security
 Disability Retirement Other: _____

Custodial Birth Parent, Adoptive Parent, or Legal Guardian Only—I do hereby affirm the first generation eligibility and income eligibility I have listed on this page is complete and accurate.

Parent # 1 / Legal Guardian Signature Date Parent # 2 / Legal Guardian Signature (if available) Date



Photo / Media Release

By signing this permission / release form I am agreeing to participate in the Talent Search program, sponsored by Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, Inc. By agreeing to participate I also agree to grant permission to Talent Search, Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, Inc., affiliated programs, host universities, program staff, volunteers, agents and assignees to publish my name, photograph, program participation information, and or digital reproduction of me/ my dependent in any form of media, to include but not limited to newspapers, reports, booklets, brochures, newsletters, magazines, commercials, training videos, social media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Youtube, websites etc., in regard to my dependent's participation in Appalachian Educational Talent Search.

Student Signature

Date

↪ _____
Parent # 1 / Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Parent # 2 / Legal Guardian Signature
(if available)

Date

Parent Permission Release

I give permission for my son or daughter to participate in Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority's Talent Search program. I release Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, Inc, Talent Search, TRIO Director, all program staff, and volunteers from any liabilities they may have as a result of any accident, and or injury while my son or daughter is participating in the program. Furthermore, I agree to hold harmless and indemnify the aforementioned released parties of any costs or liabilities they may incur as a result of my son or daughter's participation in the program.

↪ _____
Parent # 1 / Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Parent # 2 / Legal Guardian Signature
(if available)

Date

Academic Related Records & Transcripts Release Form

Reason for Request: To comply with the United States Department of Education’s regulations concerning follow-up and tracking of former Talent Search students.

Mail transcript to: Talent Search - TRIO Director

602 E 1st North Street

Morristown, Tennessee 37814

Authorization Statement:

I hereby give my permission to the Talent Search program at Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority to have access to all elementary, middle, high school, and college records for as long as their reporting/tracking requires. Access should include, but not be limited to, report cards, standardized test scores, IEP’s, discipline records, GPA’s, transcripts, admissions and enrollment status/dates, transfer records, financial aid summaries and information, SARS reports, degree attainment, current contact information and/or any other pertinent school records requested for program monitoring, tracking, and reporting. This also includes all information located on the National Student Clearinghouse. This permission shall remain active until rescinded by me, in writing. I understand that all information collected will be held strictly confidential. All information will be collected and stored in compliance with the Family Education Rights Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.

Student Signature

Date

↪ _____
Parent # 1 / Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Parent # 2 / Legal Guardian Signature
(if available)

Date

Student Release

I agree to participate in Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority’s Talent Search Program. I release Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, Inc, Talent Search, TRIO Director, all program staff, and volunteers from any liabilities they may have as a result of any accident, and or injury while I participate in the program. Furthermore, I agree to hold harmless and indemnify the aforementioned released parties of any costs or liabilities they may incur as a result of my participation in the program.

Student Signature

Date

Learn more about us online at www.trio-dcea.org/ts