

## Important Dates

Friday, June 6  
**SDP Closed  
for Eid al-Adha**

June 11-13  
**SDP Graduation Window**

Thursday, June 12  
**SDP Half Day  
Staff Development**

Friday, June 13  
**SDP Last Day of School;  
Half Day for Students**

Thursday, June 19  
**SDP Offices Closed for  
Juneteenth**



Greetings, Scholars and Families —

**Congratulations and best wishes to our Class of 2025 graduates!** We are incredibly proud and can't wait to see what you will accomplish in the future. Remember that Penn Talent Search is here for you as you take your next steps, and feel free to reach out to us any time.

ALL scholars in grades 6-12 should **save the date for our upcoming Pride celebration on Wednesday, June 25.** More details and the sign-up link will be sent via email soon!

In the meantime, read on for information regarding our virtual orientation for summer students, life advice from a famous frog, scholarship opportunities, and more.

Have questions or need assistance? Email us any time at [vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu](mailto:vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu).





The Talent Search team is busy gearing up for summer! For the families of students registered for our summer sessions in Veterinary Science, Design & Architecture, and Business & Entrepreneurship, we're hosting a virtual orientation on **Thursday, June 26 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.**

Join us to meet the staff, learn important session information, and ask any questions you may have! Students are welcome to attend with a parent/guardian. The Zoom link will be shared via email.

Note: all registered Summer participants were sent a session confirmation via email. Email us at [vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu](mailto:vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu) with any questions about your registration.

## Advocate for Talent Search and Other TRIO Programs

Did you know that Penn Talent Search is a federal TRIO program?

TRIO programs operate in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., the Pacific Islands, and Puerto Rico. Collectively, **more than 3,400 TRIO programs nationwide help nearly one million students enter and graduate from college each year.** Penn Talent Search alone serves 583 students in Philadelphia.

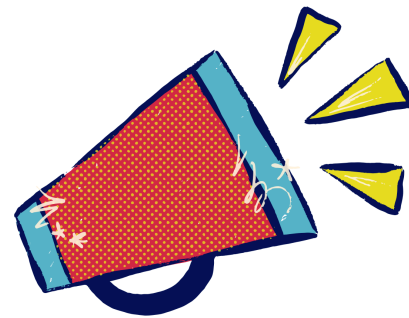
Recently, the White House issued a **budget proposal** that would **eliminate all TRIO programs** in the coming year. Across the country, TRIO students could lose access to the academic advising, career guidance, and personal support that make success possible for so many first-generation and low-income students.

**Policymakers in Congress need to hear from YOU** — the TRIO students, parents, and families — about the importance of protecting Talent Search and other programs, so we can continue to support every one of our participants along their educational journey!

Use the links below to contact your senators and representative asking for continued funding of the federal TRIO programs

- [\*\*Sample Email from Current TRIO Student\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Sample Email from Parent/Guardian and Other Supporters\*\*](#)

Thank you for being a TRIO advocate!



## Stay Connected to Your Dreams: Watch Kermit the Frog's Commencement Speech





Lots of colleges and universities invite celebrities to speak at graduation, but this year the University of Maryland boasted a most unusual commencement speaker — Kermit the Frog! Kermit has a special connection to UM, as it is the alma mater of Muppets creator Jim Henson.

Click to see Kermit's message for graduates: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twafGSmt9os>

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## Opportunities for Talent Search Scholars

### Philadelphia Youth Poet Laureate

Administered by the Free Library of Philadelphia, the Youth Poet Laureate program gives one exceptional young poet a platform for creative expression and civic engagement through poetry.

The Youth Poet Laureate will serve a term from September 2025 through June 2026 and will:

- Serve as a leader and champion of Philadelphia's youth poetry community
- Be mentored by 2024-2025 Philadelphia Poet Laureate, Kai Davis, as well as the 2026-2027 Philadelphia Poet Laureate who will be named in January 2026.
- Participate in community projects and events that promote poetry, literacy, arts education, and youth advocacy
- Receive a **\$1,000 stipend** to further the Youth Poet Laureate's education
- Be eligible to apply for the Regional and National Youth Poet Laureate contests administered by Urban Word NYC

### Korean American Scholarship Foundation

The Korean American Scholarship Foundation (KASF) is a non-profit, volunteer-managed organization established to help meet the financial needs of **Korean-American students seeking higher education**.

KASE scholarships range from **\$500 to \$5,000** and are awarded by region. All applicants must be enrolled in a full time program in the U.S during the scholarship application year. If extra funds are available, descendants of American veterans who served during the Korean War may also qualify for scholarships.

**[Click here to get more information and apply no later than June 30.](#)**

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### Called Into Growth Summer Program

The Center for Male Engagement (CME) at Community College of Philadelphia is hosting

This opportunity is open to **current 9th, 10th, and 11th graders**. You must be a resident of Philadelphia enrolled in high school at the time of the application, and you must not be graduating high school in 2025.

**[Click here to get more information and apply no later than June 13.](#)**

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## Prism Foundation Scholarship

Prism Foundation provides scholarships to empower outstanding students who are making a positive impact on the Asian & Pacific Islander and LGBTQIA+ communities. Scholarships range from **\$1000 to \$5000**, and past recipients have included both undergraduates and graduates across a spectrum of ages, gender identities, sexual orientation, racial and ethnic backgrounds, and more.

Applicants must be attending an accredited post-secondary institution in the United States in the upcoming academic year (starting in the Fall of this current year) when applying. The application is open to students who attend community college, university, and trade/vocational school. Applicants should have a **strong history of engagement within the API and/or LGBTQIA+ communities**.

**[Click here to get more info and apply no later than July 3.](#)**

Called Into Growth, a **four-week summer program** that exposes students to college-level coursework and introduces available resources at CCP.

During the last week of the program, participants stay at Kutztown University for four days to get a taste of what it's like to live on a college campus. At the end of the program, they also receive a **\$300 stipend**.

### Eligibility Requirements:

- Must complete an admission application to the Community College of Philadelphia
- Must complete the College's placement test and be admitted to the College
- **Must be a first-time incoming student at CCP**
- Must submit the CME's summer program application
- Must attend a scheduled interview (via Zoom or in-person)

**[Click here to get more info and apply today!](#)**



Follow us on social media and visit us online at **<https://vpse.upenn.edu/ets!>**

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