TRIO Talent Search is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education and has been in the Office of Minority Student Affairs (OMSA) since 2011. Talent Search is designed to create and sustain a college-going culture for its target schools and to improve parents’ capacity to prepare their child/children for college. Talent Search identifies and assists eligible individuals from the cities of Champaign, Decatur, and Urbana who have the potential to succeed in higher education.

TRIO Talent Search works with students from over 11 local schools:

- Centennial High
- Central High
- Edison Middle
- Eisenhower High
- Franklin Middle
- Jefferson Middle
- MacArthur High
- Stephen Decatur Middle
- Thomas Jefferson Middle
- Urbana High
- Urbana Middle

500 students from more than 11 local target schools are served each year by TRIO Talent Search.

98% of Talent Search students persist to the next grade level on a year-to-year basis.

The mission of the TRIO Talent Search program is to prepare participants for collegiate success. Services are designed to keep participants in high school until they graduate, help individuals re-enter high school or an equivalent program (e.g., GED), prepare participants for enrollment in college immediately following high school graduation, and provide college-readiness support to ensure post-secondary completion.

Data from the 2018-2019 OMSA Annual Report. TRIO Talent Search is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.