

# STAFF

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*"We will give students our very best effort and  
we expect students to give us their very best effort"*

*Dr. Robert Escudero*

## TRiO

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### STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

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*Pearl River  
Community College*

STUDENT  
SUPPORT  
SERVICES



**"ASKING FOR  
HELP IS A  
STRENGTH,  
NOT A  
WEAKNESS"**

## WHAT IS THE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM?

Student Support Services (SSS) is a federally funded program (Federal TRIO Programs, U.S. Department of Education) designed to provide academic support and personal motivation for students to be successful in higher education. Our program is required to serve, each academic year, at least 160 eligible students, considered by the federal guidelines to be at a disadvantage (low-income, first generation college students, and/or individuals with a disability) in college. Priority for selection to the program is given to students in good academic standing (not on academic probation, suspension) who are academic majors intending to transfer to a four-year college or university. Our mission is to help students who are low income, first generation college students, and/or individuals with disabilities to graduate from college.



## HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS?

Each student is assigned a designated SSS Counselor/Advisor who provides “active counseling” and “intrusive advising” (monitors the student’s progress continually and makes recommendations) for the students success. An individualized educational program (college success plan) is developed in an interactive process between the student and the counselor/advisor. The counselor/advisor recommends possible SSS services, other college program services, and/or community services for each student participant. Our program tracks each of our student participants’ progress until they graduate, transfer, and/or withdraw for any reason from PRCC. The program is evaluated each year to assure it is successfully meeting the academic support needs of its student participants.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility is determined by federal guidelines. **If neither of your parents graduated from a four-year college, you have financial need, or you have a disability, it is likely you qualify.** In addition, you must be a citizen or national of the U.S. or meet the residency requirements for federal financial assistance and have demonstrated an academic need for the program. SSS will provide assessment and documentation of academic need. **Academic Need** is defined as students who are poorly prepared for what is expected of them in college, students who have been out of school for several years, students who lack adequate study skills, lack self confidence and/or need to increase their academic standing to be considered for a specific program or scholarship.

## WHAT ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES ARE OFFERED?

SSS is made possible by federal funds through the TRIO Program, Title IV, US Department of Education. SSS offers the following services at no cost to eligible students:

- **Workshops/Seminars**—Study Skills, Financial Aid, Career Exploration, Preparing for Finals, etc.
- **Support Groups**—Learning support groups for specific classes or groups of students.
- **Tutorial Services**—Peer tutoring in all academic subjects, individual and small group sessions.
- **Educational Counseling Services**—Academic advisement, personal counseling, career counseling, transfer assistance, etc.
- **Computer Availability**—two tutorial/computer labs for use by program participants (Microsoft Word, Power Point, Excel, etc.).
- **Assistance with Financial Aid**—apply for and receive the aid for which students are eligible.
- **Personal Growth and Development Opportunities**—explore all avenues of enhancing a student’s personal growth (test preparation, learning styles, stress management).

- **Assistance and Support to Students with Disabilities**—provide advocacy and learning opportunities for the academic success of students with disabilities.
- **Summer Orientation Bridge Program**— primarily for incoming freshman.
- **Cultural Enrichment Activities**—plays, exhibits, etc.
- **Educational Trips**—visits to nearby four-year colleges and universities.



## HOW DO I APPLY?

Call or drop by the SSS office to make an appointment. You will be given an application for enrollment into the program. We will help you fill it out! If you meet the eligibility guidelines as determined by our staff, you will be scheduled for a SSS orientation session, assigned a SSS Advisor/Counselor who will go through the process with you of developing an individualized educational program for success at PRCC. You only have to apply once, but must renew your active status each semester to be served.