

# TUSCULUM

UNIVERSITY  
ESTABLISHED 1794

Dear Parents and Students:

Thank you for your interest in the Educational Talent Search Program. I encourage you to take time to familiarize yourself with the program as my colleagues and I would be honored to serve you and your family.

- *Educational Talent Search (known in many schools simply as Talent Search) is a Federal TRIO Program of the U.S. Department of Education and is locally sponsored by Tusculum University. Talent Search serves students in Carter, Cocke, Greene, and Unicoi counties in grades 6-12.*
- *The main goal of the program is to assist students by providing college information and academic advising services with the intent they continue their education beyond high school. These services include test-taking strategies, study skills, career awareness, ACT preparation, financial-aid assistance, college application assistance, and tutoring.*
- *All Talent Search services are **FREE!** Talent Search pays for one ACT exam, provides college visits during the school year, and offers various educational and cultural trips during the summer months.*

**There is no charge for participation in the Educational Talent Search Program. However, students interested in the program are required to submit a completed application in order to be considered for selection.** In order to comply with federal regulations, the Talent Search application is thorough and does require some personal family information. **This information is kept confidential and is not shared.**

My fellow staff members and I are happy to answer any questions you might have about the Educational Talent Search Program. Please feel free to call or visit our offices in Greeneville or contact Heather Tunnell or Melissa Dixon at (423) 636-7325. **Completed** applications can be returned to your student's school guidance counselor or mailed to the address at the bottom of the page.

Sincerely,



David Smith, Ph.D.

Director of TRIO Programs  
Educational Talent Search

Tusculum University - P.O Box 5053 - Greeneville, Tennessee 37743  
Phone (423) 636-7325 - Fax (423) 787-8334

**Educational Talent Search  
TRIO Programs**



### Tusculum University Educational Talent Search Program

60 Shiloh Rd., Box 5053, Greeneville, TN 37745 PHONE: (423) 636-7325 FAX: (423) 787-8334

### 2023-24 APPLICATION

Please complete both pages of the application, including all required signatures.  
The Talent Search program at Tusculum University is 100% funded with federal funds from the U.S. Dept. of Education.

#### STUDENT INFORMATION:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name you go by: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_  OK to send text messages

Student email: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  Male  Female

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ (needed for high school transcripts & financial aid)

Do you have any siblings in Talent Search?  Yes  No Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently in the Upward Bound program? (9-12<sup>th</sup> graders)  Yes  No

What careers are you interested in pursuing after high school? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any colleges you would like to attend after high school? \_\_\_\_\_

How would you rate your academic ability?  Mostly A's & B's  Mostly B's & C's  Mostly D's & F's

Student has the ability and desire to continue education beyond high school (college/vocational/trade school)  Yes  No

#### ETHNIC BACKGROUND

Student is a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident:  Yes  No

Select one or more categories below:

- American Indian/Alaskan Native  Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander  Two or more races
- Asian  Hispanic/Latino
- Black/African American  White/Caucasian

#### NEEDS ASSESSMENT: Which needs can Talent Search help you with this year? (Check as many as apply)

- Academic advising  Financial literacy (managing money, budgeting, investments, etc..)
- Applying for college admissions  Goal setting
- Career guidance  Study skills
- College/career/cultural field trips  Test Prep (including ACT)
- College preparation  Time management
- Financial aid information  Tutoring (online or in person)

#### PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION: The term parent applies to the parent/parents with whom the student regularly resides.

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Occupation/Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

How are you related to the student:

Parent  Step-parent  Legal Guardian  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Home/ cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_  OK to text

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduated from high school?  Yes  No

Graduated from a 4-year college?  Yes  No

If yes, list name of college \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Occupation/Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

How are you related to the student:

Parent  Step-parent  Legal Guardian  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Home/ cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_  OK to text

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduated from high school?  Yes  No

Graduated from a 4-year college?  Yes  No

If yes, list name of college \_\_\_\_\_

**In order to be considered for admittance into the Talent Search program, the following MUST be completed by a parent or guardian. The U.S. Department of Education requires this information for all program participants. All information will remain strictly confidential and is used for statistical purposes.**

**The Parent/Guardian rights are with:**  Both Parents  Single Parent  Parent/Step-parent/Partner  Grandparent  
 Aunt/Uncle/Sibling  Other \_\_\_\_\_

- Court-Appointed Foster Parent (please attach copy of foster-care documents)  
 Court-Appointed Legal Guardian (please attach copy of guardianship documents)  
 Family Guardian, no court or legal document, but I have Educational/Medical rights for said student.

### INCOME ELIGIBILITY

How many people are in your household? \_\_\_\_\_ (include students away at school)

Does your student receive free lunch?  Yes  No

**Yes, the family DID file a Federal Income Tax return for last tax year.** Please attach a copy of your most recent tax return or check the box below indicating your taxable income. **Taxable income is found on line 15 on form 1040. This amount will be LESS than your gross income and it is important you report the smaller amount.**

My **2022 TAXABLE INCOME** indicated on my tax return was:  
(This is found on line 15 on form 1040)

- \$0–\$21,870  \$52,711–\$60,420  
 \$21,870–\$29,580  \$60,421–\$68,130  
 \$29,581–\$37,290  \$68,131–\$75,840  
 \$37,921–\$45,000  \$75,841 or more  
 \$45,001–\$52,710

**No, the family DID NOT file a Federal Income Tax return for the last year.**

**Check all sources of income:**

- Social security benefits: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Food stamps/ SNAP: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Aid to Families with Dependent Children: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Veteran's benefits: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Unemployment benefits: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Disability benefits: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### AUTHORIZATIONS AND SIGNATURES:

**PUBLICITY RELEASE** – I give permission for the Tusculum University Educational Talent Search Program to capture the above named applicant and use their likeness, voice, and written materials in various media formats for publicity, promotional, and educational purposes. These formats include but are not limited to website content, social media posts, brochures, newsletters, press releases, and presentations. I understand and release Tusculum University Talent Search, its representatives, employees, and partners from any liability or claims arising out of the use, reproduction, or distribution of the media materials in which you appear or are featured.  
\_\_\_\_ Parent Initials      \_\_\_\_ Student Initials

**AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE ACADEMIC /EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION** – The parent/guardian authorizes the Tusculum University Educational Talent Search program to have access to any school records for the above named applicant, to determine eligibility for the program, and to monitor the status and progress in middle, secondary, and post-secondary education and eligibility for financial aid. I agree to the above statements and verify that by signing this document and submitting the requested documentation that the income and personal information which I have provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the information will be held in complete confidence by the Educational Talent Search program at Tusculum University.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have questions regarding the application or would like additional information about the Talent Search program, please visit us online or call our offices.  
[www.tusculum.edu/talentsearch](http://www.tusculum.edu/talentsearch) or (423) 636-7325**