

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 24, 2016

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS

BUDGET

HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Honorable Arne Duncan  
Secretary  
U.S. Dept. of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20202-0008

RE: CFDA number 84.066A; Funding Opportunity Number ED-GRANTS-020216-001

Dear Secretary Duncan:

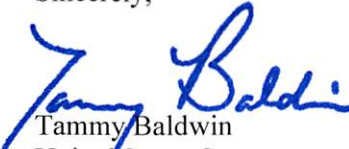
I am pleased to write in support of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's (UWM) application for continued TRIO funding for their Educational Opportunity Center. This grant will assist the Center in sustained efforts to increase access to postsecondary education for adults from disadvantaged and underrepresented backgrounds in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Educational Opportunity Center, or UWM EOC, is dedicated to motivating and assisting low-income, first-generation college, and disabled Milwaukee County adults to further their education beyond the secondary level and earn a college degree. Funding from a previous five-year TRIO grant allowed UWM EOC to successfully expand awareness about educational opportunities and provide free services that assist EOC participants in overcoming barriers that may prevent them from attending college and achieving academic success. These services include academic advising, referrals to educational programs, tutoring, financial aid information and assistance, college tours, study strategies, and life skills workshops. It is my understanding that with renewed TRIO funding, UWM EOC will continue to provide these invaluable services to Milwaukee's disadvantaged populations while developing and nurturing collaborative relationships with local community agencies, schools, postsecondary institutions, and businesses. UWM EOC staff and their partners are confident that the continued investment in education for Milwaukee County's disadvantaged and underrepresented populations is crucial to increasing the number of adults who enroll and successfully graduate from two and four-year postsecondary educational institutions.

Every American should have the opportunity to pursue their highest academic and personal potential through postsecondary education, and I strongly support efforts that seek to improve the accessibility and affordability of this opportunity for disadvantaged individuals in Wisconsin. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's application for TRIO funding. Please keep me updated on the progress of this application and contact my Madison office should you have further questions or concerns. You can reach staff in my Madison office at 30 W. Mifflin Street, Suite 700, Madison WI 53703, by phone at (608) 264-5338, and by email at [projects\\_grants@baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov).

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator