



What is FOCUS / Educational Talent Search? The Talent Search Program (FOCUS) identifies qualified youths with potential for education at the postsecondary level and encourages them to complete high school and undertake a program of postsecondary education.

Seminole State College’s FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Program, which has been assisting students in this area since 1991, is a **free** academic enrichment program you can join at your school. It is part of the **TRiO** Programs, which are funded by the U.S. Department of Education. During the school year your FOCUS / Talent Search Advisor will visit your school and meet with participants either in groups or individually.

What happens in the FOCUS / Educational Talent Search meetings? Your FOCUS / Talent Search Advisors conduct workshops and activities that provide you with valuable information—but in fun ways. Not only do you learn about college, careers, study skills, and life skills, you improve your interpersonal skills by interacting with others.

How can FOCUS help me? Services and Possible Workshops	
Tutoring	High quality academic tutoring services (Tutor.com and in-person)
Focus on Your Future	SMART goal setting, organizational skills, & tips for school success
Focus on the Test	Practical hints and tips for studying and taking tests, like the ACT
Focus on the Money	How much money will you need in the future?
Focus on Careers	Make the most money AND find the most rewarding career
College Countdown	Steps to get to and pay for college: applying, financial aid, etc.
STEM-Tacular Summer!	Learn about activities and careers in the STEM field
Influencers Summer Camp	Leadership residential camp for 9 th & 10 th

How can I join FOCUS / Educational Talent Search? Return this completed application to your school, our office in Room 109 of SSC’s Scott Bldg., or mail directly to:

FOCUS / Educational Talent Search, Seminole State College, P.O. Box 351, Seminole, OK 74818
Please call (405) 382-9703 if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you!

Mary Ann Hill – Director; Blake Cummings, Damaris Haney, Angela Harjo, Michelle Pruitt, Tina Savage, – Advisors



A Federally Funded Program

The SSC Talent Search Project is 100% federally funded in the amount of \$388,326 annually.
 The SSC Talent Search West Project is 100% federally funded in the amount of \$277,375 annually.

The following information must be provided by a parent or guardian with whom the student lives

Student's Name _____
Last
First
Middle

Social Security # _____ Birth date _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State _____ Zip Code _____

Student Email _____ Parent Email _____

Parent Phone # _____ Student Phone # _____

Would you like to receive updates through text? Parent: Yes ___ No ___ Student: Yes ___ No ___

Is the student a U.S. Citizen? Yes ___ No ___ (If no, provide documentation of permanent residency.)

School _____ Grade _____ Gender: Male _____ Female _____

Ethnicity (Check all that apply):

Black or African American _____ Asian _____ White _____ Hispanic _____

American Indian (Tribe) _____ Other (Please Specify) _____

With which **adults** does the student live? (Please check **all that apply** and provide names)

_____ Natural Mother Name _____

_____ Natural Father Name _____

_____ Stepmother Name _____

_____ Stepfather Name _____

_____ Guardian(s)*/Other Name _____

*Is student legally adopted? _____ *Is student a ward of the state (foster child)? _____

Number of people residing in household _____

What are the names of other students in the household who are in FOCUS / Educational Talent Search?

Please list any other federal program (such as Upward Bound or Gear Up) in which the student participates.

Father's Educational Background

High School: Attended but did not graduate _____ Graduated _____ GED _____

2 Year College: Attended but did not graduate _____ Received degree _____

4 Year College: Attended but did not graduate _____ Received degree _____

Father/Guardian's Name _____ Place of employment _____

Mother's Educational Background

High School: Attended but did not graduate _____ Graduated _____ GED _____

2 Year College: Attended but did not graduate _____ Received degree _____

4 Year College: Attended but did not graduate _____ Received degree _____

Mother/Guardian's Name _____ Place of employment _____

Please note: Application cannot be processed without the following, required information:

➤ **Were parents required to file a 2021 income tax return?** Yes _____ No _____

- If you checked **Yes**, please enter the amount of **taxable income** from form 1040 (amount on **line 15**). **Your taxable income is your income after deductions.** Please note that we need tax information for the family living at the address on this application.

For IRS form 1040, list amount on **line 15**. This is your taxable income: \$ _____

- If you checked **No** (not required to file a tax return), provide an estimate of your 2021 income: \$ _____

If you did not file a tax return, please indicate if you receive one or more of the following:

_____ Social Security	_____ Unemployment
_____ Retirement	_____ Child Support
_____ Welfare/Social Services	_____ Other
_____ Veterans Benefits	

Seminole State College's FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education. To receive the funds necessary to provide our participants with free services, we are required to obtain income information. We cannot accept participants without this; however, eligibility is not determined solely from income. If you have questions about this form, please call (405)382-9703. This confidential information will not be released to anyone.

Has your student applied for Oklahoma's Promise (8th-11th graders)? Yes _____ No _____

My signature indicates that the previous information is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. (Parent signature mandatory for acceptance)

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Release of Information Agreement

Student's Name _____

Social Security Number _____

This document will authorize the Seminole State College FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Program to receive and/or release relevant academic records on the above student including, but not limited to, transcripts, test scores, online school portals, teacher evaluations, and other materials necessary for participation in FOCUS / Educational Talent Search. This release includes future college transcripts, admission applications, class schedules, financial aid documents (such as the FAFSA, student aid reports and scholarship award letters) and other postsecondary education records from the National Student Clearinghouse.

I understand that these records are confidential and protected under State and Federal Confidentiality regulations. These records will be used internally for evaluating the need for program services, setting academic goals, and measuring progress toward meeting goals. This information is required to meet U.S. Department of Education regulations for the Talent Search Program.

Although this release may be revoked upon my written request, I agree that it shall be valid throughout my child's participation in the FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Program and beyond for verification of postsecondary enrollment, academic progress, and graduation.

Parent Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Student Questionnaire

Name: _____

So that we can provide the best services possible, answer the following questions about yourself:

1. Do you like school? Please explain your answer.

2. What classes in school interest you most and why?

3. What classes in school are most difficult for you and why?

4. Would you like to have tutoring in a particular class (which one)?

5. Are you able to study at home? Please explain.

6. How often do you miss school? _____ Never _____ Sometimes _____ Frequently

7. Have you ever repeated a grade? _____ Yes _____ No

8. Please indicate the areas in which you feel you need help. (Check all areas that apply)

Listening skills _____ Note taking skills _____ Reading a textbook _____

Test-taking hints _____ Managing study time _____ The college process _____

9. Are you doing the best you can in school? If you had help, could you do better? Please explain.

10. What activities are you involved in at school or otherwise? _____

11. Choose three words to describe yourself. * _____ * _____ * _____

12. What do you like to do in your spare time? _____

13. What are your plans after high school? _____ College _____ Vo-tech _____ Military _____ Job

14. If you chose college, which one are you planning to attend? _____

15. What do you want to be when you grow up? (If you aren't sure, list some things you have thought about)
