Call for Proposals

Higher education is undergoing rapid changes, driven by financial pressures, technological distribution, policy & political shifts, and shifting student needs. With change comes an opportunity to rethink how we create access, define success, support students, and build programs prepared for the future.

The Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Program invites professionals, practitioners, faculty, administrators, researchers, and campus leaders to submit proposals for our upcoming conference, **"Redefining Access and Success: Navigating Change in Higher Education."**

This conference will bring together professionals from across New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania to explore innovative ideas, share promising practices, examine emerging challenges, and develop strategies that move our programs, professionals, and students forward.

We are seeking engaging presentations that challenge traditional approaches, highlight successful practices, and provide participants with meaningful strategies they can apply on their campuses.

Conference Tracks

1. **Access & Enrollment**

Topics may include:

- College access and affordability
- Recruitment strategies
- First-generation student initiatives
- Equity and inclusion
- Alternative pathways
- Adult and returning learners
- Transfer access and partnerships
- Removing barriers to enrollment and participation

2. Student Success & Development

Topics may include:

- Retention and persistence
- Student engagement and belonging
- Academic success
- Holistic student support
- Advising and mentoring
- Career readiness
- Student leadership
- Closing completion gaps
- Supporting students beyond the classroom

3. Student Experience & Engagement

Topics may include:

- Changing student demographics
- Generational differences as a resource
- Student expectations and engagement
- Technology and digital learning
- Mental wellness and student support
- Nontraditional student populations
- Artificial intelligence and student experiences
- Reimagining the student experience

4. Leadership & Management

Topics may include:

- Crisis leadership
- Strategic decision-making
- Leadership resilience
- Managing uncertainty
- Budget management
- Communication during change
- Data-informed decision-making
- Leading with intention

5. Mental Health & Wellness

Topics may include:

- Student mental health and wellness
- Mental health resources and campus partnerships
- Burnout and compassion fatigue
- Supporting students in crisis
- Building cultures of care and belonging
- Trauma-informed practices
- Wellness and student persistence
- Staff and faculty well-being
- Creating sustainable wellness initiatives
- Reducing barriers to accessing mental health services