



Dear SMCC Student,

On behalf of the TRIO Department and the STEP Program, we would like to thank you for your interest and invite you to apply to be part of the program.

If accepted to the STEP Program, you would receive many benefits including: free tutoring, priority registration, college orientations, financial aid assistance, and academic advising. We also offer cultural opportunities and university tours to all participants.

In order to be eligible for the STEP Program, participants must:

- Be a first-generation college student (neither of your parents graduated from college with a four-year degree), low-income, or a disabled student
- Demonstrate a need for academic support
- Commit to transferring to a four-year university
- Register as a full-time student (12 units or more per semester)
- Maintain a 2.5 GPA or better
- Be a US citizen or permanent resident

In order to apply to the STEP Program, you must:

- Complete the enclosed application
- Submit a copy of your current Student Aid Report  
OR a copy of your parents' previous year income tax returns
- Complete the Financial Literacy 101 online Money Management Course with an 80% or above.
- Submit a copy of your most current check sheet (if you have one)

Please complete the enclosed application and drop it off, along with your income documents, a copy of your Financial Literacy Completion Certificate, and check sheet, to the STEP Office, located in the SS Bldg. Once you have submitted this form, we will contact you for a program orientation if you are eligible to participate. If you have any questions, please contact us at (602) 305-5676. We hope to see you soon!

Respectfully,

Ruben Saenz, MSW  
Director  
TRIO-STEP Program



**South Mountain Community College  
STEP Program Application**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

SS# \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home# ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell#( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred number: home cell

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: Female \_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Marital Status: Single \_\_\_ Married: \_\_\_

Do you have dependent children under the age of 18? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity: American Indian \_\_\_ Asian/Pacific Isl. \_\_\_ African-American \_\_\_  
Hispanic \_\_\_ Caucasian/Non-Hispanic \_\_\_ Multi-ethnic/Other \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility: First Generation \_\_\_ Low Income \_\_\_ Disabled \_\_\_ Veteran \_\_\_

Do either of your parents have a Bachelor's degree? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Do you have a disability requiring accommodations? Yes: \_\_\_ No: \_\_\_

Are you registered with Disabled Resource Services at SMCC? Yes: \_\_\_ No: \_\_\_

US Citizen: Yes: \_\_\_ No: \_\_\_ If NO, are you a Permanent Resident? A# \_\_\_\_\_

College Status: \_\_\_\_\_ What is your GPA? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Freshman, (first semester) Did you graduate from high school? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

\_\_\_ Freshman (attended college before) If NO, did you obtain a GED? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

\_\_\_ Sophomore (more than 30 units) Are you committed to transferring? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

\_\_\_ Other What is your educational goal? AA BA MA PHD

Where do you plan to transfer to? ASU Tempe \_\_\_ ASU West \_\_\_ ASU Downtown \_\_\_

ASU East \_\_\_ NAU \_\_\_ UofA \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Last college enrollment date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full-time student: \_\_\_\_\_ Part-time student: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of credit hours enrolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Which degree are you planning to receive at SMCC? AA AAEE ABUS AS AAS unknown

Who is your college advisor? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a check sheet? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Have you applied for financial aid? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Have you been awarded? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Amount awarded: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Pell Grant

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Federal Work Study

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Stafford or Perkins Loan

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarships

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Are you currently working? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, how many hours per week? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been in Foster Care? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Do your parents claim you as an exemption on their income tax returns (1040)? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Family Annual Taxable Income: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Family Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Adjustable Gross Income: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Have you participated in any TRIO programs or other student services programs such as:

\_\_\_ Educational Talent Search    \_\_\_ Upward Bound    \_\_\_ ACE    \_\_\_ HOOP  
\_\_\_ Behavioral Health Services    \_\_\_ Bilingual Nursing    \_\_\_ EOC    \_\_\_ Math/Eng Star Camp

Academic Support Needed:

___ Academic Advising	___ Counseling	___ Social/Cultural Activities
___ Transfer Advising	___ Tutoring	___ Financial Aid Advising
___ Mentoring Services	___ Study Skills	___ College Exploration
___ Math Enrichment	___ University Tours	___ Career Advising

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY**

My signature below indicates my understanding and agreement to the following:

- All of the above information is true to the best of my knowledge.
- I will actively participate in the STEP program at least 4 times per semester, which includes meeting with my advisor on a regular basis, attending activities, participating in events and tutoring, and progress reports.
- I understand that difficulty in making academic progress and not meeting the program requirements may result in probation/dismissal from the STEP Program.
- I give permission to have my name and/or picture be published in program marketing materials.
- I authorize STEP personnel access to my South Mountain Community College's academic and financial records and I give permission to the STEP Program to track my academic progress and verify my enrollment once I transfer to a four-year university.

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

## How to View & Print the Student Aid Report (SAR)

If you have already filed your FAFSA, please follow the steps below to print a copy of your SAR from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid website:

1. Go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
2. Under the column, Get Help Paying for College there is an option to: Log In
3. Login with your SSN, Name, Date of Birth.
  - a. Your PIN Number should have been provided to you by FAFSA.
  - b. If you have lost or cannot remember your PIN, click on the PIN site and request a duplicate pin
  - c. You may also contact FAFSA at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)
4. Select the current application year
5. Enter Pin#
6. Next select the option to view processed information: SAR (PDF version)
7. Go to Print This Page (Bottom of Summary)
8. Print your SAR and turn it in to the STEP Office with your completed application and interest form.

## Financial Literacy 101

Please visit [www.financialliteracy101.org](http://www.financialliteracy101.org) to complete the online money management course. You must complete this course with a test score of 80% or above to complete your STEP application. The access code is **SMCCSSS**. Print the certification and include it with your STEP application. Financial Literacy 101 will include pertinent topics such as:

- Financial Health for Students - An introduction to the concept of financial health and how financial health can be different for students.
- Introduction to Budgeting - A simple introduction to how and why everyone should consider creating a monthly budget.
- Advanced Budgeting - Suggestion for tracking actual spending over time, including our Budget-to-Actuals calculator.
  - Money Saving Ideas - Looking for ideas for ways to save money now? Almost everyone can find a way to save using at least one of these tips.