

# Educational Talent Search Times

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## FROM THE COORDINATOR



Hello TRIO Talent Search Students & Parents!

Happy New Year! As we step into 2024, I want to extend my warmest wishes for a year filled with growth, learning, and success. January marks the beginning of a new semester and a fresh

opportunity to continue your journey towards academic excellence and personal development. Take this time to reflect on your goals, both short-term and long-term, and consider the steps needed to achieve them. Our TRIO Talent Search program is here to support you every step of the way, providing resources, activities, and guidance to help you navigate the exciting path that lies ahead.

As you dive into the new semester, I encourage you to actively engage in the opportunities and activities offered by TRIO Talent Search. Attend our upcoming workshops, participate in career exploration events, and connect with your peers and mentors. The year ahead is brimming with possibilities, and your commitment to your education will undoubtedly open doors to a brighter future. Remember, you are not alone on this journey—our dedicated team is here to assist you in realizing your full potential. Let's make 2024 a year of academic achievement, personal growth, and exciting discoveries together.

**Paul Belvin - ETS Coordinator**

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## Upcoming ACT Test Dates

February 10, 2024

April 13, 2024

June 8, 2024

July 13, 2024

## College Tour Trip Dates

April 25-27

Talk to your advisor to learn more!

In recognition of Dr. Martin  
Luther King, Jr. Day



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Justice  
EVERYWHERE

- MLK Jr

The 2024-25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form is open and available at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov).



You can find us online and on social media

Website: [uvu.edu/trio/ets](https://uvu.edu/trio/ets) Blog: [uvu.edu/trio/ets/blog/index.html](https://uvu.edu/trio/ets/blog/index.html)



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## FROM THE ADVISORS



Happy New Year students, parents, and administrators. We are excited for many upcoming events in 2024. Thank you to all Seniors who completed resumes! The hope is that these will be useful for future job opportunities and for scholarship applications. Seniors, the 2024-2025 FAFSA is now open. Wasatch High School will hold an additional FAFSA night on Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm-8pm. This is to help with those of you who are experiencing glitches with the initial launch. You can also make an appointment with me anytime if you would like assistance with the forms. Juniors, Wasatch students will be taking the ACT on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Don't forget, you can take the ACT multiple times. There will be an early morning ACT prep class, so look for more details to come. We are very excited for our Junior mini college trip. This will be April 25-27, so put it on your calendars. Applications will be coming to you soon.

For all students, just a reminder that attendance in class is a huge predictor of school success. It can feel overwhelming if you have missed assignments or have gotten behind. In my experience, teachers are so willing to help you catch up and want to see you succeed. So, talk with them and ask for help. Don't give up, it is worth the effort to keep striving in school!



**Lisa Child — ETS Advisor**



**Fun Fact:** The highest possible score on the ACT is 36. The current average ACT score is 19.5. A "good" ACT score depends on the colleges and universities you are considering.

*The Princeton Review* <https://www.princetonreview.com>



Hello everyone, We have been gifted with a wonderful new year with endless possibilities and opportunities disguised as challenges. I am excited to get to know the students who have just joined our ETS family at DMS and PHS, and to continue developing relationships with students and staff. I continue to be encouraged by our students' appreciation for the attention, information, and instruction that I am able to provide to them because of this program. Our students have returned to school with renewed energy and determination to improve on their performance from last semester. Our collective goal this semester is to:



1. Help students in the program get to know each other and in so doing provide support to each other as they strive to achieve their academic goals. DMS has a fun bunch of respectful young men who are forming a nice bond.
2. Encourage students to utilize the resources at their various schools to improve their grades and achieve their other goals.



DMS - Homework Help after-school program and after subject teacher support.

PHS - After school tutoring services.

With the support of school staff last semester 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders who had outstanding assignments were provided with **Assignment Completion and Submission** sheets. We will continue to encourage them to use those to practice being accountable for their work. This initiative is supported by DMS's Homework Help team with incentives for students. I have faith that these efforts will help our students.

**Marlene Neptune — ETS Advisor**

## FROM THE ADVISORS



Lots of exciting things happening at MVHS and OJHS so far this year! I have loved starting to get to know the new 7th graders at Orem Junior, and deepening my relationships with the other TRIO students. We are now fully recruited at both schools!



So far this year we've had some wonderful workshops at both the Junior High and High Schools focused on helping the students be better students, better citizens, and to be more academically and financially ready for college. Our MVHS seniors are making great headway into college preparation. At this time, I am emphasizing the crucial importance of FAFSA ID creations for the student and parents by mid-January, and FAFSA completion prior to February 1st, despite the "soft launch." I will now be shifting my focus with the seniors to scholarship applications. MVHS TRIO students have recently been gaining insights into their learning styles. I look forward to seeing how that might translate into them becoming more effective learners. Soon we will be beginning ACT prep with MVHS Juniors and sending home registration forms for their college trip! It's an important time in the lives of all these students.



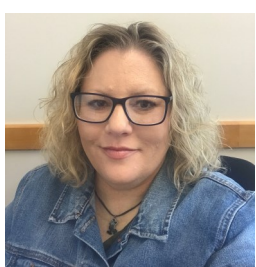
At Orem Junior we had fun making vision boards to help the students capture their visions and motivations for their future and therefore their academic and life successes now. I hope that throughout the remainder of this year that I will be able to gain the trust of my OJHS students and continue to help them realize their potential and goodness. I am so excited to see what the rest of the year will bring.

**Kaitlyn Dyshkant — ETS Advisor**



Did you know that all around the world, more women are attending universities than men? College is truly accessible to all!

<https://www.uopeople.edu/blog/college-fun-facts-that-will-surprise-you/>



Here we are, halfway through the school year. As we start into 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, it's important to stay focused on the long term goals you have set for your life. Don't get distracted by things that will not help you have the life you want following college graduation. A goal is just a dream until you make a plan for how you will accomplish it. That means writing it down. Include all the steps you need to do to complete each task and give yourself a deadline. Then do it! Charles Dickens said "Never do tomorrow, what you can do today. Procrastination is the thief of time." What are you waiting for? Do it now, whatever the "it" is in your life. You can't accomplish your goals if you don't start.



**Lesa Dixon — ETS Advisor**



Did you know researchers suggest that only 9% of Americans that make resolutions complete them? In fact, research goes on to show that 23% of people quit their resolution by the end of the first week, and 43% quit by the end of January.

<https://fisher.osu.edu/blogs/leadreadtoday/why-most-new-years-resolutions-fail#:~:text=Have%20you%20been%20able%20to,by%20the%20end%20of%20January.>

## FROM THE ADVISORS



It's that time of year again: Next year school registration! If you haven't already started now is a great time to start planning the classes you will take next year. Here are some tips for creating a schedule that will help you prepare for college.



- 1 **English - 4 Years**
- 2 **Math - 3 years** (including Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II)
- 3 **Science - 3 years** (including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics)
- 4 **Social Studies - 3 Years**
- 5 **Foreign Language – 2 Years+** (of the same language)
- 6 **Fine Arts** (at least a couple classes)
- 7 **Concurrent Enrollment & AP classes** (especially 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>)

Another important thing to remember for future seniors is that colleges will still look at your senior schedule and some will request your senior year grades. Because of this I do not recommend taking less classes senior year. Taking a normal class load shows colleges that you are serious about your education. If you are done with the requirements to graduate take concurrent enrollment classes or classes that would help better prepare you for college or help you explore new topics or interests.

If you need help with picking classes for next year, let me know!

**Whitney Parry — ETS Advisor**



**Fun Fact:** Here's what The Princeton Review has to say about elective classes and extracurricular activities in high school: "You don't want to go through high school feeling perpetually overwhelmed. Signing up for all honors classes can be a disaster if you have other commitments and extracurriculars on your plate. Remember that colleges look for balance. Academics are important, but so is a well-rounded high school resume. Taking electives (like art or graphic design classes) beyond your required courses is a great way to discover new skills and study interests."

<https://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/choosing-high-school-classes>



Welcome back, students of Rocky Mountain Middle School and Timpanogos Middle School! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and a refreshing break. As we kick off the New Year, I'm thrilled to share some exciting plans for the upcoming months. In the seventh grade, students will take their ELSIE exams, a valuable tool to understand and embrace their unique learning styles. Meanwhile, our eighth graders will be engaging in the Holland Code, a test to uncover their three most dominant personality traits. Both seventh and eighth grades will also participate in a STEAM activity, offering students a chance to delve into the fascinating world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. Stay tuned for more updates and announcements in March as we navigate through this exciting academic year together. Welcome back, and let's make it a fantastic year with Educational Talent Search!



**Olivia Thornock — ETS Advisor**

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Rocky Mountain Middle School  
 Timpanogos Middle School



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[Top 5 Skills Employers Look For | Nth Degree \(newmanu.edu\)](http://newmanu.edu)

**IF YOU ARE**  
*waiting*  
**FOR THE**  
**RIGHT TIME**  
**IT'S NOW**

SchoolPosters.com



Here's a quick "Did You Know" nugget that will boost your school game. Did you know mastering time management is like having a secret weapon for success? It's true! Imagine balancing homework, extracurriculars, and fun without feeling overwhelmed.

Quick tips: Make a schedule, break tasks into chunks, and use a planner or phone to stay organized. And here's the cool part – taking short breaks during study sessions makes you more productive!

So, next time you feel time slipping away, remember - you're the boss of your schedule! Time management is your ticket to rocking school while still having time for fun.

## Expectations of students accepted into TRIO Talent Search:

- ⇒ Attend school regularly
- ⇒ Attend monthly ETS meetings held in your school
- ⇒ Maintain a 2.5 GPA
- ⇒ Graduate high school (HS) at the end of the 12th grade
- ⇒ Take at least one dual enrollment course each year in HS
- ⇒ Attend a college/university after HS graduation
- ⇒ Earn a college degree within 6 years after HS graduation

