

engage@emu



## **Contact Us**

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## Purpose Statement

Engage@EMU is EMU's primary entry way to enhancing, navigating and cultivating collaboration and partnerships between the University and business and community entities.

- **ENHANCE** - and build upon existing University and community partnerships in order to identify new revenue sources and partnerships.
- **NAVIGATE** - opportunities between faculty/staff and student interests and academic and community and business resources.
- **CULTIVATE** - opportunities for students and faculty to integrate community practice into their research and/or curriculum.
- **CONVENE** - community and/or business entities in supporting or coordinating local, regional or state challenges.

## Our Work

Engage @ EMU initiates and coordinates various business and community-based programs, but its overall intention is to collaborate with University offices and programs and external partners as a way to better:

- Identify, promote and cultivate business/corporate engagement and community engaged programming for the local, regional and state community.
- Cultivate opportunities for students and faculty to integrate community practice into their research and/or curriculum.
- Build on existing EMU programs and partnerships in order to identify new revenue sources, partnerships and programs.
- Provide oversight and management for the Business Engaged Council (BEC) and Business Link, the University's virtual business engagement doorway and platform.
- Provide oversight and management for the Community Engaged Council (CEC) and Community Link, the University's virtual community engagement doorway and platform.

## Intro

Engage@EMU is a merging of several University areas dedicated to University outreach, and community and business engagement: The Institute for the Study of Children Families and Communities (ISCFC), The Office of Academic Service-Learning (AS-L) and Professional Programs and Training (PPAT). Each area works both independently and collectively to ensure that EMU is a key provider of community and professional services and training; a key community partner; a driver of educational access, and a catalyst for public scholarship and engagement.



# Primary Programs



# Academic Service-Learning (AS-L)

## Purpose

The Office of AS-L's core purpose is to provide professional development opportunities for faculty in integrating service-learning or community-based learning methodologies into courses, curriculum and/or scholarly activity through its faculty fellow seminar program and enhancement workshops.

## Projects

Since its inception in 1997 the Office of AS-L has developed short and long-term grant funded community-centered programs tied to faculty expertise and/or academic curriculum such as: The Business Side of Youth, Digital Inclusion, Prevention Theatre Collective, College Coaching Corps, Black Ypsilanti Signage Project and ASAP (Athletic Support Academic Project) in Ypsilanti Community Schools and the Ford Community Corps Service-Learning Projects.

## Funding

- Eastern Michigan University Provost Office
- Community Mental Health Partnerships of Southeast Michigan
- Ford Community Fund
- Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development
- Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation

**Funding Collaboration:** Ypsilanti Community Schools, Lincoln Consolidated, Milan Public Schools, WISD and the City of Ypsilanti.

## Impact

**250**

faculty from all colleges and disciplines have been trained in AS-L.

**220**

AS-L Courses have been developed and implemented at EMU.

**410**

K-12 students attended EMU camps on main campus in 2017-18.

## Testimonials

*The Office of AS-L has been a source of knowledge and inspiration for me since I started at EMU. The AS-L seminar has changed the way I think about teacher education and led me to improve my teacher preparation courses both at EMU and even in Study Abroad contexts. My students love the rich, field-based academic experiences, our community appreciates our outreach, and I feel much more energized as an instructor.*

- Zuzana Tomas, Associate Professor  
ESL/TESOL, Dept. of World Languages





# Community Relations and Engagement

## Purpose

To act as connector and convener between the university and communities we partner with, as well as being present and engaged in various university initiatives.

## Projects and Engagement

- EMU Detroit
- Collaborative - Ypsilanti YMCA Child Development Center
- Ford Community Corps
- Ypsi Proud
- Community Action Network & Brick Elementary Collaboration
- EMU Gospel Fest
- Parkridge Community Meetings
- U Link
- Ypsilanti Black Historical Signage Project
- Bike Share Grant Program
- Detroit Public TV

## Funding

General funds support this position and grant funds are sought to support partnerships and programming.

## Testimonials

*"First, let me say I sincerely appreciate your initiatives, hard work and all you have accomplished on behalf of NAAPID at Night."*

- Yvonne Dulin, Co-founder of NAAPID

## Impact

Outreach and collaborative efforts result in connections and assistance to multiple community partners in the form of increased support, services and secured grant funding.

Examples include:

### hosting

of regional conference on Restorative Practices hosted by the Dispute Resolution center at EMU's Student Center.

### investment

secured to complete EMU's pledge to host the inaugural residential STEM program for the Girls in Engineering Academy.

### coordination

of National African American Parent Involvement Day @ Night conference.

### developed

"Healthy Living" grant for the Ypsilanti Housing Commission Bike Share grant.





# Community Work Study

## Purpose

Engage@EMU operates the Community Work-Study Program where undergraduate students can earn their awarded work-study funds and gain experience by working with local community-focused government or non-profit organizations. The Community Work-Study Program allows Eastern Michigan University to invest in local community organizations through student worker positions and paid internships. EMU students can pursue academic or professional goals through these partnerships and develop professional relationships in the community.

## Projects

The Community Work-Study Program for EMU continues to develop and seek partnerships with community-focused government and non-profit organizations, while creating flexible and accessible opportunities for participating EMU work-study students. Through these efforts it continues to meet the mandated goal that 7% of all work-study funds be utilized for community initiatives.

## Funding

All funding for student pay comes from federal work-study financial aid awards. The program is supervised by a full-time Graduate Assistant who is also paid through federal work-study.

## Impact

**\$135,648**

in value to nonprofit organizations and government agencies that partnered with EMU in the program for FY17/18.

**74**

EMU students worked with 27 community-focused organizations through EMU's Community Work-Study Program in FY17/18.

**5,500**

hours of work was completed by EMU work-study students and \$55,348 in work-study funds were earned in FY17/18.

## Testimonials

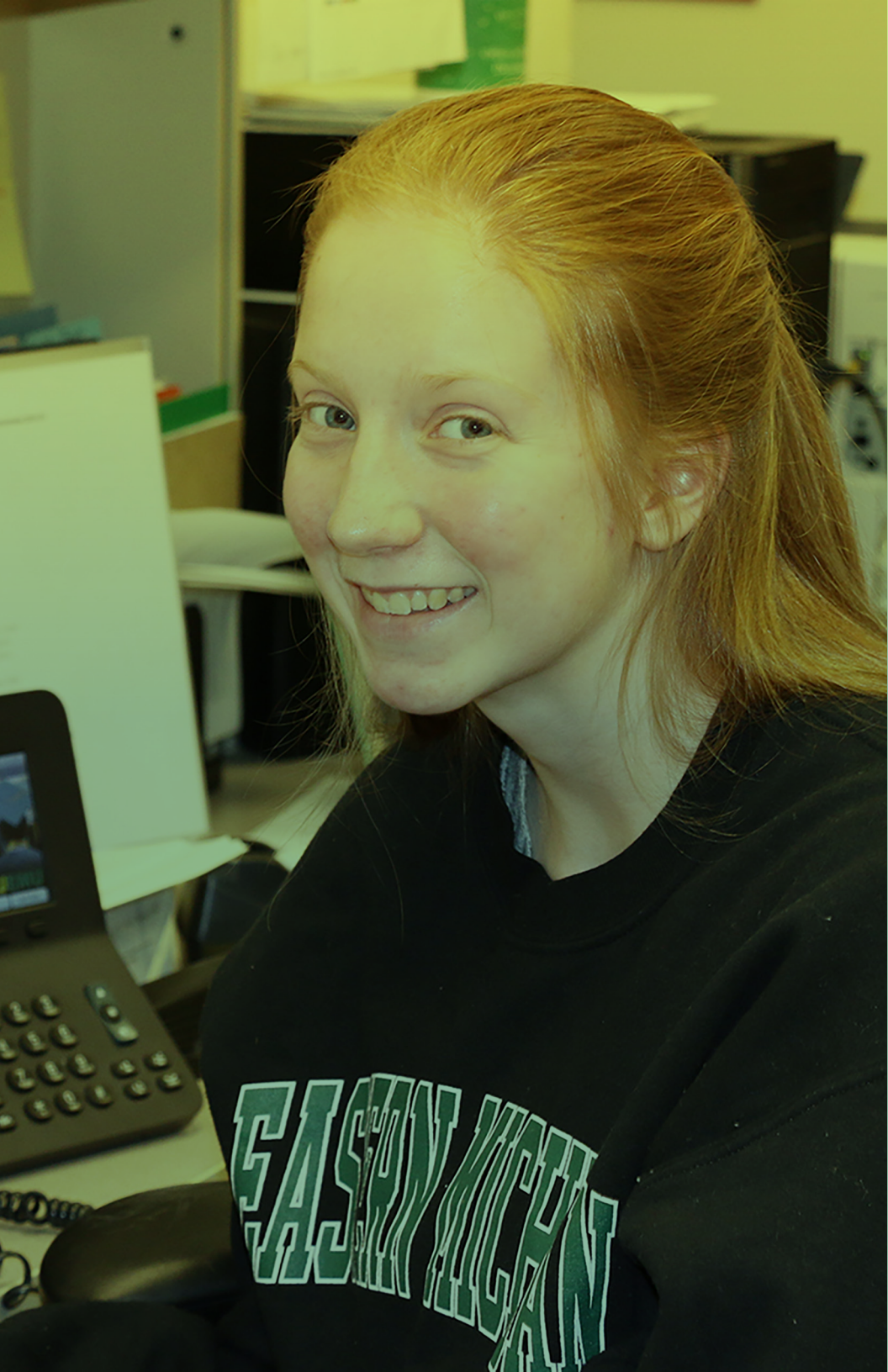
*It's such a fantastic program to have students out in the community doing meaningful work while building work skills and professional contacts."*

- Government Agency Official

*"This has been an incredible program. It has completely revolutionized our volunteer/intern program. We are so thankful for this partnership."*

- Nonprofit Organization Director





# Early College Alliance (ECA)

## Purpose

The Early College Alliance (ECA) is a unique educational program designed to fully immerse high school-aged students into the post-secondary learning environment. ECA is a public, early/middle college program located on the campus of Eastern Michigan University. It exists in partnership with all 9 of Washtenaw County's public school districts.

The program gives students an opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school and offers strong, academically focused students a chance to enroll in advanced, college-level coursework. It also provides an alternative for students who are either struggling or don't feel connected to their school.

## Projects

ECA allows students to:

- Graduate from high school with a diploma and up to 60 college credits.
- Attend classes on a university campus with support.
- Learn in a college environment that fosters maturity and academic growth.
- Gain vital skills for college success.

## Funding

ECA is funded through a percentage of each school district's foundation allowance and continues seeking additional funding through both public and private sources.

## Impact

**460**

high school students attend Early College Alliance on the campus of EMU each year.

**75%**

of ECA students remain at EMU to complete their 4 year degree.

**\$25,000**

is approximately how much each ECA student is saving in tuition costs by earning 60 college credits while in high school and attending EMU.

## Testimonials

*"In the ECA, you don't actually attend high school, but the credits you earn apply to high school as well as college. The program has expanded my horizons and helped me grow."*

- Chavanduka, former ECA student





# EMU Bright Futures - 21st Century Community Learning Centers Programs

## Purpose

The focus of Eastern Michigan University's Bright Futures is to improve academic achievement, develop self-efficacy, fuel student passion for learning and the arts and prepare middle and high school students to transition to the next level of education. Our work supports positive youth development with a focus on Social Emotional Learning (SEL).

## Projects

EMU Bright Futures is a network of afterschool and summer programs designed to infuse a research-based positive youth development model, the Youth Program Quality Intervention. At its core, Bright Futures programs provide a safe and supportive structured environment in which youth voice and governance can grow and thrive. Within this context, youth have the opportunity to strengthen their academic skills while developing a strong set of social, emotional, executive and leadership skills.

Bright Futures programs meet after school for 32 weeks during the school year and 6 weeks in the summer with additional family programs throughout the year. Each site serves 40-50 students at a time. Students participate daily in homework help and tutoring, mentoring and service-learning and select from a rotating menu of clubs and activities.

## Funding

The EMU Bright Futures program is currently receiving funds for five 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grants through the Michigan Department of Education.

## Impact

We serve youth K-12 in three school districts  
(Romulus, Wayne Westland, and Ypsilanti  
Community Schools)

**25**

school sites in 3 school districts.

**1275**

students and their families were  
served during the FY17/18 school  
year (15 sites).

**2125**

projected students and their families  
during the FY18/19 school year (25  
sites).

## Testimonials

*"Bright Futures has vastly improved our family relationships. They have encouraged more communication and setting aside special family time. I love the relationships that have been created by the staff at Bright Futures!"*

- Bright Futures Parent





# EMU Testing & Certification Center

## Purpose

The EMU Testing and Certification Center offers high quality testing and certification services by certified proctors in a controlled, secure and professional environment. This supports the university's strategic efforts to ensure student success and program innovation by administering certification and licensure, distance learning and pre-employment exams for EMU students and the Southeast Michigan region.

## Projects

The EMU Testing and Certification Center strives to create partnerships with EMU degree programs. A great example of this is the Teacher Education program. Through one of our testing providers, Pearson Vue, we offer the needed state certification exams (MTTC) that will allow our students to student teach as well as to become teachers.

In addition to on campus partnerships, the EMU Testing and Certification Center works to align it's exam offerings with what is needed in the regional workforce. Targeting high demand career fields, we locate certification partners and work to bring those exams to our center.

## Funding

The EMU Testing and Certification Center generates revenue through testing and proctoring fees. Our goal is to build a center that covers the costs needed to provide these services to our campus and community.

## Impact

**164**

administered exams in the first year for both students and community members.

**65%**

of all testers are EMU students.

**800+**

exams and certifications are offered through our vendor partnerships.

## Testimonials

*"Employers are looking for credentials. Certifications tell them exactly what you know and takes the guesswork out of whether you have the knowledge and skills needed for the job."*

- EMU Assistant Director, Business and Community Initiatives





# EMU Upward Bound

## Purpose

EMU Upward Bound provides fundamental support to approximately 90 local high school students in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for low-income students to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately become first-generation college graduates. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which traditionally underserved students complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

## Projects

EMU Upward Bound offers two distinct programs: a comprehensive tutoring, support, and mentor relationship with students during the school year, and a six-week program during the summer that enriches academics and provides explorative experiences for students. Through college and cultural excursions, programming for parents, test preparation, and transitional support for incoming freshmen and outgoing seniors, EMU UB provides wraparound support that stimulates success at the college level.

## Funding

EMU Upward Bound is funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

## Impact

**75%**

of EMU Upward Bound students come from low-income households and will be first-generation college graduates.

**91%**

of participants matriculated to the next grade or graduated if they are seniors.

**79%**

of 2018 EMU UB graduates began postsecondary education the next semester after graduation.

## Testimonials

*"The Upward Bound program brings a culture of college preparedness to our students by instilling in them the academic confidence it takes to succeed in college. The program transforms students by not only tutoring them and assisting them academically but addressing student as an individual learner with unique challenges and strengths. Through participation in Upward Bound I have seen many students develop a sense of ownership and responsibility in regards to their education that opens doors for these students that may not have been open otherwise."*

- Chris Donoghue, YCHS Counselor





# Eastern Scholars

## Purpose

The Eastern Scholars program is concurrent enrollment, which offers college level courses at high schools through a contract with EMU. This academic program is customized to meet the needs of both the high school and EMU. It prepares students to receive academic credit upon completion of the course work. Curriculum is focused on the principles of the associated discipline and affords students the opportunity to develop skills in a specific area.

## Benefits

High schools that choose to participate in Eastern Scholars gain the advantage of “for credit” college courses on-site for their students. The students can earn transferable credit which can be used at most colleges and universities. By providing exposure to college level courses in high schools, the students may find the transition to college easier. Finally, students who enroll in dual/concurrent enrollment courses during high school save significant money and complete their college degree sooner than traditional students.

## Funding

Eastern Scholars generates revenue through the courses that it supports through the program. The schools that participate pay a flat rate for the courses their students participate in. On average the savings per credit hour is more than 65% of the regular in-state rate for students.

## Impact

**1146**

student credit hours generated through Eastern Scholars during FY17/18.

**365**

students were enrolled in our Eastern Scholars program during FY 17/18.

**44%**

of Eastern Scholar students attend EMU after high school graduation.

**70%**

discount on tuition rates for schools that participate in Eastern Scholars.

## Partners

- Milan High School
- Saline High School
- Skyline High School
- Pinckney High School
- Lapeer High School
- Community High School

## Recent Course Offerings:

World Languages, Information Assurance, Political Science, Biology, Communication, Media & Theatre Arts, & Health Sciences.





# The Family Empowerment Program (FEP)

## Purpose

Launched in 2011 through an initial grant from the Kresge Foundation, The Family Empowerment Program (FEP) housed at Eastern Michigan University and coordinated by on-site social workers is a key point for social, health and economic access, education support and community navigation for families living in all Ypsilanti Housing Commission (YHC) communities. Through partnerships and programming, the FEP has developed a social services program whose purpose is to substantially improve the educational, health, and economic outcomes for all 568 individuals currently living in YHC communities.

## Project

FEP is YHC's primary supportive services program for its residents. FEP's service model is flexible in order to best address the needs a vulnerable individual may have: housing, food assistance, child care, transportation, access to health and dental care, all using the tools of self-empowerment, self-reliance, and agency with the support and coaching of the FEP staff. This person-centered approach to case management allows for staff to become familiar with each individual in the FEP, ensuring that programming and available services meet the needs of the individual as well as those of the southern side of Ypsilanti as a whole (community minded).

## Funding

- Kresge Foundation
- Michigan Medicine
- Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
- Corporation for Supportive Housing - Strong Families Fund
- Ypsilanti Housing Commission
- United Way of Washtenaw County

## Impact

**\$50K**

secured for utility assistance to YHC residents. This was made possible by Barrier Busters and The Office of Community and Economic Development.

**568**

YHC residents are supported through the FEP.

**25**

residents have IDA Accounts in which they experience an 8:1 match with their savings Accounts.

## Testimonials

*"Without the childcare scholarship, I would not be able to afford childcare."*

*"Thanks to the IDA program, I was able to use the money saved to pay my loan off and graduate college!"*

- YHC Residents





# Professional Programs and Training (PPAT)

## Purpose

Professional Programs and Training (PPAT) at Eastern Michigan University provides industry-recognized training, continuing education and certification prep programs to help students and employees of regional businesses and beyond develop their skills and knowledge. The PPAT team offers practical, process-based instruction in multiple industries and formats for professionals.

## Projects

PPAT provides programs both on main campus and in the community. Through partnerships with outside organizations and companies, over a third of our programs are hosted at places of work or at specialized facilities. Our trainers are EMU faculty or external experts that educate through experience, research and best practice. PPAT's primary program areas are:

- Education (SCECH)
- Health and Safety (H&S)
- Human Resources (SHRM)
- Nonprofit Leadership
- Polymers and Coatings
- Quality and Continuous Improvement
- Social Work (CEU)
- EMU Testing and Certification Center

## Funding

PPAT generates revenue through course and program fees and secures grants to provide specific programs to our region.

## Impact

**150,000+**

workers, managers and safety professionals trained in more than 500 facilities.

**1,600+**

professionals participate in non-credit courses annually.

**Top 20**

partner for Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) and one of the oldest programs in the country.

**35**

different health & safety training areas provided through open enrollment and on-site training each year.

## Testimonials

*EMU's OSHA program is professionally run with instructors who have first-hand experience in the subjects being taught. This provides additional, practical information over and above the regulations, which is helpful on the job. I gained an enormous amount of information and practical training. The Certificate also identified me to my employer as a professional in this field.*

*EHS Specialist  
Health and Safety Professional Certificate*



# Southeast Michigan Stewardship Coalition (SEMIS)

## Purpose

The SEMIS Coalition facilitates school-community partnerships to develop students as citizen-stewards of healthy ecological-social systems. The Coalition provides sustained professional learning experiences in place-based education (PBE) through full day workshops, site-based coaching, networking opportunities, and mini-grant funding support during the school year and summer for teachers and community partners in Southeast Michigan.

## Projects

Place-based education integrates student learning into the community, solving real problems while aligning projects with standards across the curriculum. Most importantly, it engages students by answering the question lurking in the back of their minds - "how is what I'm learning in class relate to the real world?"

SEMIS students have been active in many environmental and community projects around southeast Michigan. Many teachers choose to begin PBE with community mapping activities that allow students to observe an area, ask questions, and connect with their local place. Projects develop through a variety of in-class and in-community experiences, and involve partner organizations that support both teachers and students in the work. Finally, students identify and take project related civic actions, share the results of their work in public ways, and reflect on the experiences and their learning.

## Funding

Major funding has been provided by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust through the SEMIS Coalition's parent organization the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative for the past 10 years. Additional grant funding has come from another 13 foundations, agencies and organizations to continue SEMIS's initiatives.

## Impact

**30+**

schools and more than 26 different community organizations have active participation with SEMIS.

**1000**

students each year are engaged in rich place-based experiences through SEMIS support of teachers and partners.

**50-70**

teachers and community educators are supported through 9 days of professional learning as well as coaching year round.

## Testimonials

*"The SEMIS Coalition has given me great new connections – to people, to place, to our precious waterways, plants and animals. I am interested in doing what I can to connect my urban kids with nature, and our shared need to sustain our world."*

- SEMIS Teacher





photo courtesy of Leisa Thompson

# TRiO Student Support Services (SSS)

## Purpose

Eastern Michigan University's TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) is a program funded by the U.S. Department of Education to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements and to motivate students toward the successful completion of their post-secondary education. The goal of TRiO SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants.

## Projects

As part of EMU's TRiO SSS Program, students have access to tailored cultural activities to help them acclimate to the university and develop strong relationships with their peers, instructors and advisors. TRiO SSS participants have the advantage of receiving the following services and more:

- Academic tutoring and peer mentoring
- Academic workshops and cultural events
- Financial aid advising and financial literacy education
- Graduate and professional school preparation
- Be a part of a Living Learning Community

## Funding

Eastern Michigan University's TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) is a program funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

## Impact

**140**

first-generation, low-income, and/or students with disabilities were served during the 2017-2018 academic year, which met our federal objective.

**85%**

of students returned to continue college exceeding the 74% benchmark and the federal persistence objective.

**28%**

of students made the Dean's List and 80% earned a GPA above 3.00 in the Fall of 2017.

## Testimonials

*"The staff at the TRiO office have always been supportive. Whenever I had an off-day or if I was struggling with an assignment or something else in life they have always offered an ear. I plan to be involved with TRiO for the rest of my life even as an alumni when I graduate."*

- Alex Barich (TRiO SSS Student)





# Veteran Student Support Services (VSSS)

## Purpose

EMU's Veteran Student Support Services is a U.S. Department of Education program that serves 80 eligible veteran students. The objectives of the program are: 35% of participants served by the Student Support Services Project will be retained in higher education from one academic year to the next, 35% of participants served by the Student Support Services Project will remain in good academic standing at the university, and 30% of participants served by the Student Support Services Project will complete a baccalaureate degree within six years.

## Projects

The program includes providing multiple services to include assistance with course selection, financial aid, tutoring and applications for graduate programs. Student Support Services also assists students by providing a sense of community for veterans on campus, and coaching in the transition into a new career field through assisting with seeking internships, research opportunities, or career-related jobs while in school.

## Funding

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

## Impact

**91%**

Fall 2018 retention rate for 80 eligible veteran EMU students.

**70%**

approximate graduation rate for the first two program cohorts is anticipated.

## Testimonials

*"Through the VSSS I have learned of countless opportunities completely unknown to me before entering the program. I don't mean superficial opportunity. I can genuinely say that without the VSSS I would not be half the student upon graduation."*

-EMU Veteran Student

*"There was a long time when I felt lost and couldn't find my footing, where I had no idea. I had all these plans that I wanted for my future but no actual road map to get there. I just was not sure what the next year or however many years was going to hold. This is probably the first time since I started Eastern and over the course of the last few months where I feel purpose-driven. I have a goal now and desire... a road map."*

-EMU Veteran Student





