



Day 4 of the 12 Days of TRIO

Direct From ED: The Budget Training Every TRIO Project Needs

Today's gift is something every TRIO Project Director, Coordinator, and Budget Manager will want to review as they prepare for the year ahead. We are spotlighting **official Department of Education (ED) budget training**, straight from the source, because understanding allowable costs is not just good practice; it is a critical compliance safeguard.

Far too many audit findings and monitoring issues come down to one thing, a misunderstanding of what ED allows, what it prohibits, and what requires prior approval. So today, we are putting the *real* training in your hands.

Below are two essential ED training resources that every TRIO team should review:

- [**Allowable Costs and Activities Training**](#) – An overview of federal rules, direct vs. indirect costs, how to avoid unallowable costs, and how your GAN and approved application affect spending.
- [**ED Budget Training Modules**](#) – Internal Controls, Cash Management, and Discretionary Grant Administration, each packed with the regulations, expectations, and common pitfalls that can either keep your project strong or land you on a corrective action plan.

These are not optional "nice-to-knows." They are the foundation for every federal dollar you spend.

When ED offers training, the smart move is to take it. It protects your Project, your institution or agency, and your team. And honestly, it saves headaches. Nobody wants to explain an unallowable cost in an audit, especially when the resources to avoid the mistake are free and available.

And if you want structured, TRIO-focused training...

While ED provides the regulatory foundation, NEC provides practical application.

If you want deeper (well... richer) guidance on how to budget, operate, and stay compliant within TRIO's real-world context, our on-demand NEC Professional Development Courses are available anytime:

👉 <https://www.nosotrosexdu.org/courses>

They are built for TRIO professionals who want clarity, confidence, and a roadmap through the rules, not guesswork. ED sets the law, and NEC shows you how to carry it out every day.