



**Emmanuel Bonilla**

TRIO SSS

After being in the Air force for 5 years and completing 2 tours overseas, I have changed my ways and have learned to ask for help. Coming back to school and entering this environment, I needed support. I went to TRIO with not truly knowing what to expect. Once I joined, I quickly learned that asking for help wasn't a weakness but rather made me stronger. TRIO has been amazing. First, they really helped me to understand how many hours of studying I needed to apply to pass a class. Then I asked for help in math and they found me a tutor that really helped me jump from barely passing to an "A" in the class. If it wasn't for TRIO, I would have struggled tremendously and probably quit school. Now I can't wait to finish school and accomplish my dream of working for Microsoft. Thanks to TRIO, I can see my dreams are turning into reality. I encourage any student at Washington State University to join TRIO. It is better to have support ready when the hard times come, then to need support when it is so dark that you can't see the light.



## Student Success Services

Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education. Student Support Services (SSS) projects also may provide grant aid to current SSS participants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants (# 84.063). The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants.

All SSS projects must provide: academic tutoring, which may include instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics, science, and other subjects; advice and assistance in postsecondary course selection, assist student with information on both the full range of student financial aid programs, benefits and resources for locating public and private scholarships; and assistance in completing financial aid applications. Education or counseling services designed to improve the financial and economic literacy and assist students in applying for admission to graduate and professional programs; and assist students enrolled in two-year institutions and applying for admission to, and obtaining financial assistance for enrollment in four-year programs. The SSS projects may also provide individualized counseling for personal, career, and academic information, activities, and instruction designed to acquaint students with career options; exposure to cultural events and academic programs not usually available; mentoring programs, securing temporary housing during breaks for students who are homeless youths and students who are in foster care or are aging out of the foster care system.

# TRIO