



Ruben Cortez

TRIO SSS

To start off, the most difficult obstacle I had to face was being a first generation student. I found this a challenge because I really did not have anybody in my family that had experience going through college. Due to this, my family had limited guidance on how college worked and what I should expect. So going to college I had to learn everything on my own and figure out how everything worked. After joining TRIO I was able to get the help and support, which made me feel that I was not alone on this journey. One of the things TRIO helped me with was finding scholarships to help me fund my education. Also, TRIO helped me with planning out my 4 year plan to obtain my bachelors and how to transition from community college to a 4 year university. Overall, when I had some questions or uncertainties I was able to find the guidance through TRIO from my counselors or the director Marc Coomer.

Currently I am at Washington State University finishing up my BA in Management and Operations. I will be graduating this May. My future plans are to go get some work experience in the business industry and be able to find what aspect of business I enjoy. I plan on going back to school to get my Master's in Business so getting to know what I really like to do will help me decide what program is best for me. At the end my career goal is to be able to obtain a position where I can develop employees but at the same time be in a senior management role within the organization.

 <http://www.washingtontrio.org>



Student Success Services

Yakima Valley Community College TRiO SSS serves 200 students. The project features first quarter learning communities focused on developing college navigation skills and positive support networks. Ongoing services include intensive advising, tutoring, financial literacy, university campus visits, and other academic supports. YVCC TRiO SSS serves both the Yakima and Grandview campuses.

TRiO