

**Levi Olson**

TRIO SSS

Since starting at Skagit Valley College I've had nothing but good experiences. Sometimes I fall, but I've learned that, this is part of the learning experience. I have loved every second of my college career and I can't wait to see what's next. There have always been people in my life who want me to succeed, no matter where my aim might lay. Those people were especially supportive of my choice to return to school.

What I didn't bank on was finding strangers who were equally supportive of seeing me reach my goals. I found those people at Skagit Valley College in the TRIO Student Support Services program. The Trio program has been a great asset to me. Knowing I have tutoring available for any subject, at any time is a great relief by itself. Having those same people invested in my success is like having a second family rooting for me from the sidelines. In my 4th quarter at SVC I feel very confident I will graduate Computer Information Systems and continue pursuing my ultimate career path as a cyber-security specialist or network administrator.

 <https://www.skagit.edu/trio>

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.

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