
Opportunities for Success

*Student stories of the
I-BEST and Opportunity Grant programs at work at
Washington state community and technical colleges*



**COMMUNITY AND
TECHNICAL COLLEGES**

Washington State Board

June 2018

Better Jobs, Brighter Futures, a Stronger Washington

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet on Washington community and technical college students! You will find 31 stories of educational and workforce success thanks to two of Washington state's highly successful strategies for educating and preparing residents for living wage careers: the Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training or I-BEST and Opportunity Grant programs. Each student (and now employee) in these pages got where they are today because of these programs and the hard work and dedication of the faculty and staff who support them.

Thanks to the leadership of Washington state Rep. Phyllis Gutierrez Kenney and continued long-term support from the Washington state Legislature, I-BEST and Opportunity Grant provide critical support in meeting Washington state's workforce needs. Through these two nationally recognized educational innovations, Washington's community and technical colleges are working to identify and fill gaps in our economy's workforce. Primary among the challenges are the facts that there will be:

- 740,000 job openings in Washington state in the next five years with majority (70 percent) requiring some postsecondary education¹ – and we do not have the person-power with the skills to fill those jobs.
- But at the same time, we have over 685,000 adults in Washington state who lack the basic skills² needed to meet those workforce needs with
- 571,000 individuals 18 years of age and older without even a high school credential.³

I-BEST and Opportunity Grant are key to providing access to college level career pathways to certificates and degrees in high demand industries for our under-skilled adults – bringing equity and inclusiveness within our students' grasp and meeting the needs of Washington's employers. Many of the students in these pages have already moved on to further certificates and degrees – and better jobs and sustainable careers with higher wages – thanks to the success they experienced through I-BEST and the Opportunity Grant. And now through community and technical college applied bachelor's degrees, students who begin in I-BEST can earn a four-year degree.

I-BEST and Opportunity Grants are also critical in meeting our state's Roadmap Attainment goals. The goals are that by 2023:

- All adults in Washington, ages 25 to 44, will have a high school diploma or equivalent.⁴
- And that at least 70 percent of Washington adults, ages 25 to 44, will have a postsecondary credential.⁵

What is I-BEST and Opportunity Grant?

Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST) is a delivery model that uses a team-teaching approach to transform how workforce education is offered in Washington state. Students work with two teachers in the classroom: one provides job-training and the other teaches basic skills in reading, math or English language. I-BEST was named a Bright Idea by Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government in 2011 and has been designated by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the most significant, national innovations.

The Opportunity Grant program is a funding solution that helps low-income students train for high-wage, high-demand careers. The grant covers up to 45 credits of tuition (a year's worth) to be used within three years and up to \$1,000 a year for books and supplies. Students also benefit from tutoring, career advising, emergency childcare, emergency transportation and college success classes.

Recent research conducted by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) demonstrates that both programs exceed their wage goals. Further, 48 percent of students who co-enroll in both programs are historically underserved students of color.⁶

I-BEST and Opportunity Grants: two programs working together to meet Washington state's educational and workforce goals.

Thank you for your continued support.

Theresa Vetter

Bates Technical College



My name is Theresa Vetter. I am an Opportunity Grant recipient and former I-BEST student.

In my first two quarters, I was part of the I-BEST program. The extra support and guidance was exceptional in helping me and all the students in the program organize, navigate and study to achieve success.

The Opportunity Grant helped me finish my last two quarters after I lost my Pell Grant and wasn't sure I could afford to finish the LPN program. It paid for books I couldn't afford and the rest of my tuition.

Now, I work at the Weatherly Inn as an LPN. I plan to move on to RN school as soon as possible. I am hoping to find a program that offers the support both academically and financially that I was able to benefit from at Bates.

The LPN program at Bates, along with I-BEST and Opportunity Grant, opened up the doors for me to be able to be competitive in the field of nursing and find a job that fits my home life schedule.

Guan Liao

Bellevue College

When I was an ESL student, I saw an advisor about earning an associate degree. The advisor told me to "go back to complete English 101 first." This meant it would take several years to finish English and earn my degree. That sad result made me walk away from college!

Later, I learned that I could take college classes in I-BEST, so I enrolled in the program. I-BEST and Opportunity Grant helped me to finish my first certificate in accounting. My I-BEST teacher encouraged me to keep going and not to worry about my English.

I followed his advice, and I earned a number of certificates before I finished my classes and graduated in two years! Earning an Accounting associate degree helped me to open a door to a new career! After I graduated, I found an excellent job at a great company, Pace Staffing Network.

I-BEST and Opportunity Grant led me to a new life!

Rachel Templeton

Bellingham Technical College



Rachel is a single mom of a young daughter. After searching for a field that she would enjoy and could make her a good living to support her family, she decided to go into the welding program at Bellingham Technical College.

The welding program had a number of I-BEST classes that Rachel felt really helped her stay on track with the program to reach her goals. She enjoyed the team-teaching of I-BEST to help her understand the material and get the help she needed.

She also was a recipient of Opportunity Grant funding. This money was a critical component to helping her pay for the tools and other expenses associated with a high cost program.

Without the I-BEST and Opportunity grant support, the journey to achieve her goals of graduating from the welding program would have been far more difficult.

Zenaida Lopez

Big Bend Community College



Big Bend Community College's Zenaida Lopez is a first-generation college student and daughter of migrant parents who worked unbelievable hours on farms in California and Washington to provide her the opportunity for education.

Zenaida is currently a second-year nursing student, working as a certified nurse's assistant, with plans to graduate in June and move to Tri-Cities to earn her bachelor's in nursing at Washington State University. She volunteers with the American Cancer Society when she is not working or studying.

Zenaida credits resources at Big Bend like TRiO, Work Source and Workforce Education services for helping to guide her through her educational journey and the Opportunity Grant for making her educational dreams a reality.

Zenaida has received a job offer from Kadlec Regional Medical Center in the Acute Care Unit.

Sandra Kinsey

Cascadia College



I started taking classes at Cascadia College in the fall of 2015, and completed my AAS–Networking Infrastructure Technology degree in the fall of 2017.

I was drawn towards the hands-on labs and the networking aspect of technology. The part I liked the most about taking classes in the NIT track was learning how devices communicate with each other, the types of security controls available, and how we can best use these devices to improve network functionality across systems.

Without the Opportunity Grant, I would not have been able to pursue my educational goals and career. I was on my own to fund my college education, as I worked part and full-time while in school. Receiving the Opportunity Grant allowed me not to worry about paying for school, and focus on my career growth.

Now I am working in Issaquah at Costco’s home office in their IS department as a SAP Security and Compliance trainee, and I’m on track to becoming a Security Analyst.

Laura White

Centralia College



At the age of 51, schooling was not on my agenda. I wanted a change but felt too old to learn something new. School was meant for the youth, not a middle aged woman. Plus, being an introvert, I was not comfortable in a group setting.

A dear friend posted an NAC course that was starting in Morton, Washington. I felt prompted to look into it.

From the first day in class to my last day of clinicals I’ve never regretted it. The I-BEST support was exactly what I needed as a returning student. The instructors were amazing, their teaching styles made me feel accepted, capable and included.

Several days after clinicals I received an immediate interview and was hired at Morton General Hospital.

Best decision this woman ever made.

Niccole Fuller

Clark College



My experience in I-BEST was the foundation that changed the course of my educational experience. I was 41-years-old and decided to return to school. I had fear, anxiety, and was not sure I would be able to adapt to school life. I signed up for an I-BEST class in Early Childhood Education. My goal was to obtain a certificate to meet Washington state requirements to open a daycare. The classes were so engaging and informational, it prompted me to look at getting my AAS in Early Childhood Education. Due to the structure and support of these classes, my confidence to move forward in my education was life changing. I went on to get my degree and graduated with highest honors. I attribute this to the I-BEST instructors, coaches and mentors who set me up for success. I am now graduating with my transfer degree with highest honors from Clark College and starting Eastern Washington University in the

fall to get my bachelor's in Social Work.

A big thank you to the I-BEST team for helping me to reach my educational goals beyond what I could have ever dreamed.

Maylyn Rivera

Clover Park Technical College



I wanted to go back to school to earn a Nursing Assistant Certificate (NAC) and GED®. I had been out of school for a while and knew it was time for me to start working toward my goals.

After learning about the I-BEST NAC program, I decided it would be the best learning environment for me. I was drawn to the program because I liked the idea of two instructors being in the classroom. Throughout the course, I felt supported by both instructors. If I had additional questions, there was always an instructor available to provide individual assistance, which I truly appreciated. It was nice to be able to bounce ideas off two teachers and receive the information from two different learning styles. I took the state exam and passed on the first attempt. I know the I-BEST NAC course helped me reach my goal of earning a NAC license.

I am now working full-time as a NAC at Five Oaks Healthcare in Lakewood. I love what I do! I was also able to earn my GED® through Clover Park Technical College instruction. I am now looking to continue my education and start working toward a degree as a LPN.

Dielika Kone

Columbia Basin College



Being a part of the Opportunity Grant and I-BEST program at Columbia Basin College changed my life.

I decided to pursue a Nursing Assistant Certificate (NAC) in 2016 to be able to provide for my family and find steady employment since relocating from Mali, West Africa.

I would not have been able to attend without the support and funding from the Opportunity Grant. The Opportunity Grant program was there for any needs I had while attending classes. With English being my third language, the I-BEST program was essential to helping me overcome language barriers and understand the material, along with the encouragement from my instructors.

Since receiving my NAC certificate, I have been employed as a Home Health Care provider. Opportunity Grant and I-BEST

have helped build my confidence as a student and professional. I am now taking online classes in Accounting at CBC while working in healthcare.

Hanaa Alzoubi

Edmonds Community College



I am from Syria, and I ran from the war with my three boys.

I arrived in the U.S. in December 2014 and came to Edmonds Community College for ESL classes. Then the I-BEST program visited my class and it sounded like a big opportunity. I was excited to take college level classes with extra help because there is a totally different way of studying in the U.S. than in my country.

Having two teachers helped me to keep up in classes and stay on track. My I-BEST advisors were very patient and supportive, and connected me with the Opportunity Grant for funding. I am proud to have these people in my life. I was lost and they found me!

These programs saved my life by connecting me with the career I have today. Now, I am working as a Lab Assistant and Certified Nursing Assistant, while still going to school to become a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Toni Torrelli

Everett Community College



Employed at Tomorrow's Hope

My journey started through working with my case manager at Housing Hope. I was referred to the I-BEST Early Childhood Education program because of my desire to work with children. The extra assistance provided by the I-BEST program specialist allowed easier access to the school with someone to help me with the entire process and guide me on my educational pathway. Having the support of both instructors allowed me to thrive in class and made sure I had all the support I needed to be successful.

Having been out of school for many years this extra support played a key role in my success. In addition, the financial support of the Opportunity Grant allowed me to be able to go back to school.

My goal is to continue and get my next certificate and be a lead early childhood educator.

Craig Goodface

Grays Harbor College



I am a member of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe; however, for the past 15 years, I have been a member of the community of Taholah, Washington. I am married, have three children and one grandson.

In June, I will graduate with my Associate in Applied Science in Human Services and minor in Chemical Dependency. While completing my degree, I am also working as a Counselor at Lifeline Connections in Aberdeen and South Bend.

In the past two years, I-BEST has prepared me for my courses and for my field of study which has afforded me the opportunity to provide services in our community. I attained skills to conduct individual and group counseling, intervene in crisis situations and manage client case files.

I am looking forward to becoming fully certified as a Chemical Dependency Counselor and continuing to help people in recovery.

Eriberta Manzano

Highline College



The first time I heard about I-BEST was during winter quarter 2017 when I was enrolled in a GED® class. Before I joined I-BEST, I was very shy and felt insecure about myself. I-BEST encouraged me and helped me understand that whenever I had a question or didn't understand a subject, my professors were eager to support me in any way they could and that I wasn't alone in my journey. Since I had an ESL professor in I-BEST it helped me understand better, improved my writing, I learned useful vocabulary and how to write a resume. I used my new skills and it helped me pass my Language Arts test. I-BEST also helped me pass my Math test.

I-BEST was not easy for me, there were times that I felt like I wanted to give up and drop out, but I made and overcame the challenges. I got my Certificate in Hospitality & Tourism thanks to the support of all my professors.

Now I feel more comfortable about myself. I have a job at Highline in the ESL department and I just enrolled in business classes.

Cesar Ivan Becerra

Lake Washington Institute of Technology



Cesar Ivan Becerra, or Ivan as he prefers, completed the I-BEST General Service Technician Certificate of Completion in March of 2018.

Right after starting, he worked with his I-BEST instructors on job skills because he wanted to get a job as quickly as possible. And Ivan did get a job – fast! Ivan interviewed and was offered a Lube Technician role with Toyota of Kirkland at the end of his first quarter, and Ivan credits his I-BEST support instructor with teaching him skills to help write his cover letter and resume, and practice his interviewing skills.

Ivan says that learning auto repair with I-BEST has been “like a dream come true.” When he started, Ivan didn't think he would continue past his certificate.

Yet, with the confidence he gained in I-BEST, he is now pursuing an Auto Repair Technician AAS degree in the mornings and working for Toyota in the afternoons.

Mark Outland

Lower Columbia College



I-BEST, Opportunity Grant Programs Help Working Parents

Like nearly half of the student population at LCC, Mark Outland had to juggle parenting with his other responsibilities when he enrolled in college. Access to childcare and a lack of financial resources threatened to derail his path to a productive career.

Fortunately, Mark received the extra support he needed to be successful. Through the I-BEST program, he received individualized academic support. Opportunity Grant and the BFET program helped him financially with support for tuition, books, tools and childcare, and connected him with other campus resources including scholarship opportunities.

“My experience at LCC is probably one of the best decisions I’ve made in my life,” Mark said.

With support, Mark completed an AAS in Machine Trades and a Certificate of Proficiency in Computer Numerical Control in 2017. He is employed full-time as a machinist at Williams Precision and gives back to the community through volunteer service with the Lions Club.

Elleni Woldemichael

North Seattle College



Elleni Woldemichael is from Ethiopia and has been in Seattle for four years. She is married and has 4-year-old triplets.

Elleni, with the help of an Opportunity Grant, recently got her Initial Certificate in Early Childhood Education (ECE) through the ECE I-BEST program at North Seattle College.

The reason she chose the ECE program was her love of children. She states her best quality as helpfulness; she is always trying to find why people are the way they are and trying to help them. Without the I-BEST program – the teachers and extra support – she says she wouldn’t have had the confidence to enroll in the program, much less succeed.

After getting her certificate, Elleni immediately started a position at a preschool and loves putting her education into practice. She is also continuing her education with night classes to obtain her Specialized Certificate in ECE.

Morgan Denton

Olympic College



When I started Olympic College, I could not imagine what an education was going to do for me.

I quit my low paying retail job that I had been at for six years to pursue something that could support my two children and myself.

The Opportunity Grant funded 75 percent of my Chemical Dependency Professional certificate. This grant put me in a position to be able to focus on coursework and utilize all of the resources and opportunities that a community college offers by not having to stress about money or trying to find part-time employment that was willing to work with my limitations of a rotating schedule and being a single parent.

Because of this, I graduated with honors. I am now attending the University of Washington pursuing my bachelor's degree in criminal justice and employed full time at Olympic College as the WorkFirst Program Coordinator.

Alicen Egnew

Peninsula College



Alicen Egnew joined Peninsula College's Medical Assistant (MA) Program in the fall 2013 armed with a GED®. On June 20, 2017, she graduated with her high school diploma, medical assistant certificate, an AAS degree in medical assisting, and a spring induction into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She also volunteered to assist with the MA Program's inaugural pinning ceremony.

Today Alicen is working at North Olympic Health Care Network as a medical assistant. As someone who dropped out of high school, Alicen is grateful for the I-BEST program, which helped her reconnect with school after being away for several years.

Alicen is enjoying getting her feet on the ground in her new career and having a steady income. Though she has no plans to return to school in the immediate future, she wouldn't rule it out down the road.

"Right now, it's nice not having homework to finish up," she said.

Sandra Tinoco

Pierce College District



Sandra Tinoco is the first in her family to go to college. She began her journey at Pierce College by taking English as a Second Language courses and then earning a certificate in Early Childhood Education with the support of I-BEST. This achievement affirmed Sandra's passion for teaching and she continued her studies to earn her associate degree in Early Childhood Education.

After gaining some work experience in the field, Sandra knew she wanted to devote her career not only to working with children, but to helping low-income and immigrant parents learn to advocate for themselves and their families. Sandra is completing her Bachelor of Applied Science in Teaching at Pierce College.

Sandra contributes her success to the support of family, faculty and staff who helped her to never give up. Without the financial support of the Opportunity Grant, her dream of becoming an educator would have never been possible.

Edilwena Bala

Seattle Central College



An immigrant from the Philippines, Edilwena Bala came to Seattle after getting married five years ago. She started in basic studies, and with two children at home, wanted to do a program where she could get a job. So Edilwena joined the one-quarter Central Supply Technician I-BEST, learning the skills to work in surgical services.

Edilwena believes she would not have been able to complete the course without the support of the I-BEST model. The Basic Skills instructor reviewed material and helped her develop strategies for learning medical terminology and managing class material. This, along with two instructors in the classroom, made her successful.

Shortly after completing, Edilwena was hired at First Hill Surgery Center as a full time Sterile Processing Technician.

In just four months, she was promoted to Lead Tech and continues working there now. Edilwena plans to continue toward an Allied Health degree next year.

Wendkouni “Eric” Zongo

Shoreline Community College



Wendkouni “Eric” Zongo has come a long way in a short time. Three years ago, he was an Uber driver, making \$12/hour. In March, he started as a \$24.75/hour Boeing tool maker. The 41-year-old husband and father is from Burkina Faso. A friend told him about the I-BEST Manufacturing program at Shoreline Community College.

Opportunity Grant funding “took the stress away,” allowing Eric to focus on school. He loved the great teaching and support provided by the I-BEST program. As a student, he landed a \$14/hour assembly line job at Genie Industries in Redmond, where he steadily earned raises as he completed his Certificate of Proficiency and Manufacturing degree. At Boeing he hopes to develop deeper expertise.

The I-BEST Manufacturing program and the Opportunity Grant “opened up a huge door in front of me,” says Eric. “It shifted my entire vision. I just have to put in energy and run!”

Raymond Silva

Skagit Valley College



As a student in high school, I struggled. School did not interest me except for the vocational classes. I dropped out of school my junior year to go work full-time as an apprentice aircraft mechanic. I wanted something different.

Not having graduated from high school limited me in finding work. I went to Skagit Valley College to start taking classes to get my GED®. With help from Workforce, I was able to get started. I found that SVC had a great welding program and enrolled to get a two-year degree. Workforce grants and Opportunity Grant helped me fund my education, and the I-BEST program helped me reach my goals.

Two and a half years later, I walked in the graduation ceremony with over a hundred other classmates that had successfully obtained a degree and/or certificate. I graduated with High

Honors, was awarded the departmental award in the welding department, and I earned my high school diploma. Workforce grants helped me achieve my goals. I now work as a structural welder for Matrix Services at BP Cherry Point Refinery.

Celisia Berrington

South Puget Sound Community College



Celisia, an I-BEST graduate and full-time SPSCC library employee, uses the skills she learned from I-BEST to help others find the success that she already has found.

Celisia had nearly completed law school in Mozambique before she came to the U.S.; she had to start her education over. After one quarter of ESL to refine her English, she began on a path that ended with her earning two Associate of Applied Science degrees: Legal Administrative Assistant and Administrative Assistant.

“I-BEST was part of the receptionist program that I started after ESL. It taught me how to be successful: organization, goals, perseverance and motivation. I learned that nobody can achieve your goals except you.”

Celisia has shared this message with students through volunteer and career work in tutoring centers, the library, and as a substitute paraeducator. Today, Celisia connects and motivates students who visit the library when they are open to her support.

Dusasikarn Janchuen

South Seattle College



In 2016, I started taking I-BEST for Home Care Aid. I-BEST meant a lot to me and helped me understand more about home care aide in the classroom. For example, with having two teachers in the class, one taught me how to work in the home care field and the other teacher helped me with the vocabulary if I didn't understand a word. The class also helped me learn a lot about the medical field and how to connect with patients and work with others on a medical team.

After finishing the Home Care Aide class at South Seattle College, I passed the state test and got my Home Care Aid certification and have been working at an assisted living facility in Burien for the last 10 months.

I am thankful for the South Seattle College I-BEST Home Care Aid classes. They helped me get started in the medical field but also with my English and my study skills to continue my education.

Michelle Evans

Community Colleges of Spokane



My name is Michelle Evans and I graduated from the Automotive Technology Program at Spokane Community College with the help of the Opportunity Grant and the I-BEST program. I had attempted an automotive degree 10 years ago, but was unable to complete it.

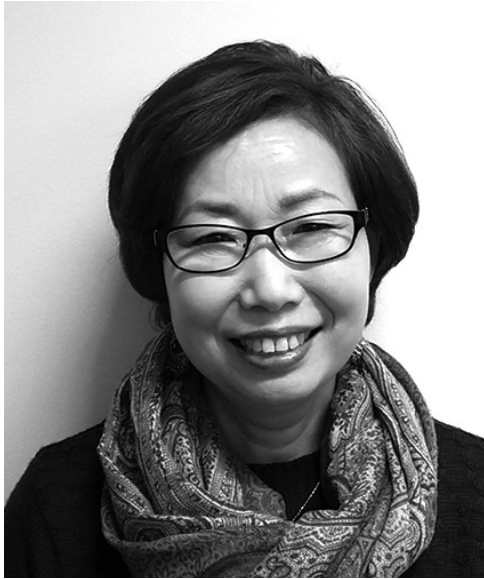
After withdrawing from school, I stayed at home with my kids for six years before deciding to return to school to finish my education.

Without the help from the grant and additional instruction, it would have been impossible to complete my degree. Additionally, the grant allowed me to purchase tools that helped me be more prepared to start my career immediately after I completed my coursework.

I am now employed at Becker Buick and love my new career. I sincerely hope that Opportunity Grant and I-BEST programs will continue to be funded to help more student pursue their dreams.

Insuk Stenstrom

Tacoma Community College



My name is Insuk Stenstrom, and I took Accounting Office Assistant courses through the I-BEST program in fall 2006 at Tacoma Community College. I have been working in TCC's Assessment Department as a Data Specialist since 2008.

After becoming a widow, I came to the United States from Korea with three young children for better life; however, it was hard for me to look for a job without work experience or educational background in America. The I-BEST program helped me improve my English skills as well as helping me get a job.

Furthermore, it encouraged me to get an associate degree in accounting while working full-time. Without supports from instructors and staff, my dream would never have come true. I really appreciate that the I-BEST program gave me the opportunity to achieve my goal, and I hope the program will continue to help people with limited language skills or low confidence.

Felix Cruz

Walla Walla Community College



I graduated high school in 2009, and have been working in a variety of jobs ever since. I am currently a robot operator at Broetje Orchards and enrolled in an Energy Systems Technology certificate course at Walla Walla Community College.

WWCC's I-BEST classes have helped me to expand my knowledge in the electrical field as it applies to my job. The support offered in the I-BEST class has helped me understand and apply the concepts taught to workplace problems. It's empowering because I'm learning to solve the electrical issues that I encounter in the workplace. For example, now I understand that different motors need a certain voltage or have a higher resistance. This allows me to understand why some of the motors that I work with frequently overload and how I can prevent this from happening. The learning that has

taken place in the I-BEST Principles of Electric Theory class has opened a huge door for me career-wise. I plan to expand my abilities to become a certified electrician and move on to the Energy Systems Technology program that WWCC offers and to help grow my career.

Rosalba Gonzalez

Wenatchee Valley College



The I-BEST program helped me emerge efficiently to the Early Childhood Education (ECE) coursework required for the completion of my ECE degree.

I-BEST and the Adult Basic Education/ESL courses served as a bridge that gave me the confidence necessary in the English language to keep adding coursework required to graduate from Wenatchee Valley College.

I then transferred to Eastern Washington University and received my bachelor's degree this year.

The Opportunity Grant program and staff served as a strong emotional and economic support that helped me the most during the financial and personal struggles I had to overcome in order to persist until my ECE degree completion.

Yisenia Cuellar

Whatcom Community College



My name is Yisenia Cuellar, Certified Medical Assistant. I graduated from Whatcom Community College in August 2017 with a certificate in Medical Assisting. The I-BEST program helped me to reach my first career goal.

I currently work at Peace Health Medical Group. I was able to complete all of my program prerequisite classes with extra support in the I-BEST program.

I also received additional funding from the Opportunity Grant program. These extra funds helped me pay for all of my college and living expenses.

The I-BEST and Opportunity Grant programs helped me to pursue my dream to become a medical assistant. The scholarships and support I received helped me to complete my education and become a healthcare professional. I feel fortunate to have participated in I-BEST and to have been a recipient of the Opportunity Grant scholarship.

Ilene Uerling

Yakima Valley College



Ilene Uerling grew up in the Yakima Valley. Her senior year of high school was interrupted by pregnancy, as she decided to drop out of school and begin working. After previous attempts to continue her education were unsuccessful, she reached out to YVC, finding a friendly and supportive staff to help start her on her path to success. She enrolled in the I-BEST Nursing Assistant Certificate (NAC) program while taking the courses she needed to complete her GED®.

“I was very intimidated about returning to school,” stated Uerling. “Everyone has helped me so much. There is no way I would have had the opportunity to accomplish my goals without YVC. YVC’s program provided me with the one-on-one attention I needed to be successful,” she continued.

Following completion of the NAC program, she applied and tested for the Washington State Department of Health’s certification. Having passed both, she is now planning to work in the Emergency Room at Virginia Mason Memorial Hospital.

Sources

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Through I-BEST and Opportunity Grants, Washington state community and technical colleges have demonstrated track records for training Washingtonians to meet workforce needs and teaching skills they need to live productive lives.

We continue to support these programs so that they become the models for how we provide career-connected learning opportunities that closes both workforce and equity gaps.

Thank you for your continued support of these programs that change lives, transform communities, and contribute to Washington's further economic growth and success.



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