

Greetings, my name is Josselyn Salgado and I am a sophomore at the College of Lake County (CLC) located in Grayslake, Illinois. I am currently majoring in Environmental Science and working towards my Associates in Science and a transferable bachelor's degree in Earth science.

As a student at Warren Township High school (WTHS), an interest in environmental science classes led me to become involved with M.E.C.S. (Mother Earth-Concerned Students), a student organization. During my last year at WTHS, my relationships within M.E.C.S. strengthened and made my passion for environmental science grow. My goals were centered around fixing the earth around us and doing everything in my power to reverse the damage caused by us. I became an advocate for cleaning up my local communities to make the areas safer for local flora. Informing others about the benefits of recycling water bottles and giving them options on how to reduce their everyday waste were other ways I tried to make a difference.

During this past year at CLC, I was granted three awards with partnering just as a student with my institute organizations (Certificate of Excellence, Silver Circle of Achievement, and Sustainability Award). After receiving these awards, it was obvious that I had to strive to be part of something bigger which led to me running for higher office positions in the institution's student organizations. Currently, I hold the position of Vice President of Environmental Club and Public Relations Officer for Latino Alliance for the 2019-2020 school year. Within these organizations, I worked with my community to create a positive change and step up as environmental, Latina leader. For the first time, I can finally say that I feel as if I am accomplishing a dream and carving a clear to my road to success. My current goal is to complete my associate's degree in Science by Fall of 2020 and go on to attain a bachelor's in Earth Science the following year and later pursue a Bachelor's in Environmental Science. After earning my associate's and bachelor's degrees, I plan to further my education and pursue a master's degree in Environmental Science.