

EOPS

Maria Droz

Submitted by Ana Garcia

Maria is a single mother with two children (and one on the way), who started at SBCC as an ESL student. She completed the ESL program and then continued to complete an AA-T in Early Childhood Education, as well as AAs in Liberal Arts with Emphasis in Social/Behavior Sciences and Arts/Humanities. She applied to transfer and was denied because she was not able to complete her required math course. She fought hard and eventually completed the math course with lots of support from EOPS tutors. She is now employed as a preschool teacher and ready to apply for Spring 2023 Admission at CSUCI. We are so proud of Maria and her hard work! Wishing you lots of joy with the new addition and with your new step in your educational journey!

Maria's Words of Gratitude

My name is Maria Droz and I graduated from SBCC this past Fall semester of 2021. When I first started at SBCC, I was in the ESL Program. When I finished all the ESL level classes, I started thinking about what I wanted to do to move ahead to get a better job to provide for myself and my children. I received a recommendation from a social worker from Monroe School (where my children went to school) to go to EOPS and SBCC because there were a lot of programs that could help me. I am thankful to her because she explained that she had done the same thing as me; she had taken the ESL classes and continued in school to get the job she had with the school district now. There was another person who helped me get set-up with EOPS, where I was assured, they would help me. EOPS guided me about what classes I needed to take to be able to work toward my ECE certificate. Learning English was challenging and taking all the classes I needed in English was not easy. I completed my ECE certificate and have been working at a preschool at a Presbyterian Church in Santa Barbara. My long-term goal is to transfer to Channel Islands University to continue to take classes in education in order to understand more about children. I want to find a job that pays more, has benefits and that I enjoy. I want to express my gratitude for all the people who have helped me to work towards my dreams and fulfill my goals.