

2020-21 Scholarship Recipient

John Marquez

New Start High School Seattle Tacoma International Airport (STIA) Scholarship \$10,000



John's high school career started out rough. He struggled in school. He shared, "Growing up in a low-income working class family was just my normal. We didn't have much but I did have my family. My point is that when you are brought up in a place of adversity, it seems to get the best of you. It's like having a big shadow that is always following you." John realized that without turning his life around, he was not going to make it.

John got support from people who cared about him. He enrolled at New Start High School and things began to change. John became a member of his school's leadership team. He made Honor Roll and received a 4.0 GPA. John started tutoring at South West Youth and Family Services and working in the school's garden.



John realizes that the help he received made all the difference. He wants to do the same for others. So, he plans to attend Highline College where he wants to study Human Services and Chemical Dependency. "This scholarship is going to help me tremendously by paying my tuition and allowing me to continue my education. I am the first person in my family to graduate and attend college, and I am really proud of that."

Highline Schools Foundation awards post-secondary scholarships to graduating seniors in Highline Public Schools. Thanks to generous funders, the Foundation is able to offer many different types of scholarships. This year, it is anticipated that over \$200,000 in scholarships will be awarded.