



Ricardo's Student Journey

Ricardo is a hard worker and has been promoted to shift manager. He's single and lives with a roommate. Ricardo's always been good at tech stuff and helps his family and friends with their tech.

He took some classes in IT at the community college, but he's not been to school for five years. He doesn't have the time or money to go further in his education.

He would like to pursue a degree in IT, and the McDonald's Archways to Opportunity Scholarship Fund seems like the perfect opportunity to do that.

Ricardo, 27
Shift manager of five years.

Challenges
Financial Challenges.
Time constraints—works full time.
Organization and time management—needs a flexible schedule.
Had to pause his education because he didn't have enough funds.
Struggles with writing and English classes.

Education
Graduated high school with a 3.0 GPA. Some college credits.

PROSPECT TO ENROLLED

Apply

Completes Pre-Enrollment form and selects B.S. in Information Technology.

Connects with an Enrollment Counselor.

Fills out FAFSA and requests Archways tuition assistance. Student is automatically eligible for the WGU Archways Gap Scholarship.*

Costs: Free application. **Month 1** ▶

Ricardo has transcripts transferred from his community college.

Credentials are evaluated for admission.

Admitted to WGU.

Months 2-4 ▶

Enroll

Finalizes financial aid, tuition assistance, and scholarships.

Months 5-6 ▼

ENROLLED STUDENT

Term 2

Now that Ricardo is comfortable with his learning, he and his Mentor meet once every other week.

Ricardo earns two certifications:
LPI Linus Essentials
ITIL Foundation Certification

Term 1

Ricardo and his Mentor connect to set the term plan, and he enrolls on the first day of the term start. He has a goal of taking at least one extra course each term to graduate faster. He engages with Student Success for help with time management skills.

Each week, Ricardo connects with his Mentor to discuss progress toward his goals and set an action plan for the next week.

Ricardo's first Course Instructor reaches out within three days of his starting the first course to offer tips on how to study/learn and provides contact information and a scheduling link in case he wants to meet one-on-one to discuss course material.

EACH TERM IS SIX MONTHS IN LENGTH.

Term 3

Because he struggles with writing and English classes, his Mentor connects Ricardo to the Writing Center.

Ricardo earns two more certifications:
CompTIA Network+
CompTIA Security+

Term 4

Ricardo continues earning certifications:
CompTIA Project+
CompTIA A+

Term 5

Ricardo continues to meet his goal of completing one extra course per term and earns two more certifications:
CompTIA IT Operations Specialist
CompTIA Secure Infrastructure Specialist

Graduation

Ricardo graduates!

Ricardo decides to attend a virtual commencement online.

WGU alumni have access to career and professional development services for life.

Term 6

Ricardo earns the following certifications:
Amazon AWS Cloud Practitioner
CIW User Interface Designer

Ricardo completes his final courses to earn his BSIT degree and is cleared for graduation.

GRADUATION!

*WGU Scholarship is for up to four terms.