



**Armando Magana**

Dual enrolled at Oregon State University, Linn Benton Community College

**Age:** 34

**Year:** Sophomore

**Major:** Pre-medical science

**Goal:** to become a doctor and provide medical service through a community clinic to populations without sufficient resources for medical care

After working in agriculture for many years, Armando Magana was encouraged toward college by his long-time employers, both farm owners and doctors, who saw his potential for success. He is deeply inspired by his family and community in which he sees a strong need for medical workers. He immigrated to the U.S. from a small Mexican village at age 17, and did not have any middle school or high school education before earning his GED. Armando is now successfully pursuing his dreams of a career in medicine at Oregon State University and Linn Benton Community College, and works vigorously to learn the foundations that many others who attended secondary school already have. Being new to the education system, and English being his second language, he says that his dual enrollment at LBCC and OSU allowed him to benefit from the advising and resources on both campuses. He currently commutes to two different community and homeless clinics and volunteers as a Spanish translator, in addition to being a full-time student, husband, and father of three. Armando paid for his first year of pre-med courses through personal savings and scholarships. However, he says that he already sees that his education is getting harder for him to afford. Last year, his aid and scholarships resulted in \$1800 for living expenses, while this year, it resulted into only \$621 for the entire term. The further along he gets in his coursework, the more demanding the courses are, making it hard for him to work in addition to attending school. Still, he is tackling chemistry and calculus courses one at a time, and downplays his success in the system, saying, "yeah, I'm doing ok."