

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Verified  
Grad Program Applying To: MPA

Iteration Name: 202510\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MPA

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Jessica Davis  
Recommenders Institution: Washington Student  
Achievement Council  
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to  
review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓  
Received Date: 05/30/2024 10:13 AM  
Recommendation Type: General  
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000118705200

Recommenders Title: Program Manager  
Contact Name: Isabel Hernandez  
Recommendation Waiver Choice: I do not waive my right to  
review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Status: Received  
Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.  
Recommender Form: MPA Letter of  
Recommendation/Form  
Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

#### Recommender Form Questions

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How long have you known  
applicant:  
  
  
  
  
  
  
June 1, 2023

Time since last contact with  
applicant:

This morning (5/30/24)

Applicant ability as  
self-directed learner: Isabel and I work in a  
fast-pace, strategic-planning,  
and DEIB environment in an  
remote/hybrid space.  
Because of this, being a  
self-directed learner is key  
along with collaboration with  
our team. Isabel has been  
phenomenal in taking the time  
to learn new financial aid  
changes, program updates  
and giving a DEIB lens on  
how we can continue to be  
equitable to the students we  
serve. Overall - outstanding.

Applicant as productive  
member of group: Isabel is interdependent and  
great at requesting  
clarification, support and  
further guidance when  
needed. Even so, I know I  
have relied on Isabel as she  
can remember the tiniest  
details we have discussed in  
stakeholder and partner  
meetings. She is outstanding  
at listening and asking great  
questions to further create a  
team of understanding when it  
comes to the team's goal(s).

Relationship with Applicant:		Applicant most significant strengths:	Isabel's leadership is not one of extravert (some may say she leans on the introvert side) but is absolutely necessary to have in a cohort. Reading her work and her written communication with our students is absolutely amazing - you know she has taken so much time and care to write the most comforting email for a student who is struggling to understand how to manage their resources. She shows care but empowers students to self-efficacy. As a current state employee, I know that The Evergreen State College can amplify who work and strengthen her framework further than before. I also know that Isabel can bring a lot to the table as well with her current understanding of our agency and showcasing what is sociologically happening in our state policies/programs related to workforce support. All in all, I will always be Isabel's biggest supporter for lifelong learning and growth mindset.
	Colleague		
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Outstanding	Responsibility/reliability:	Outstanding
Communication Skills - Oral:	Excellent	Communication skills - written:	Outstanding
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Outstanding	Ability to work independently:	Outstanding
Ability to handle stress:	Outstanding	Ability to think critically:	Outstanding
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Outstanding	Ability to think creatively:	Excellent
Openness to feedback:	Outstanding	Potential for leadership:	Outstanding
Ability to work in a team:	Outstanding	Personal/professional reflection:	Outstanding

#### Description Information

Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu>

#### Other Information

Created Time: 05/20/2024 03:10 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 05/30/2024 10:13 AM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier

The Evergreen State College  
2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW  
Olympia, WA 98505

To the Master of Public Administration Selection Committee:

Isabel will be one of your strongest candidates in your MPA program. Her leadership skill is one where not many can achieve by taking classes. Where others will talk away the silence, Isabel embraces it - nurtures it in a way where she is willing to analyze comments, data or actions that were overlooked. Where others focus on being extraverted in their responses, Isabel will calmly focus on the voices that were never given the water to grow.

I have been with the Washington Student Achievement Council for about a year as the Program Manager for the National Guard Grant and the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence. Since day one, Isabel has been providing me the much-needed understanding of our students and addresses variables that can make our program successful while also keeping the lens of being student-centered in the workforce environment.

Isabel's transferrable and hard skills will be a strong foundation for you when she begins your MPA program. Isabel has supported me during the legislative sessions as we pull up our program's data, conduct budget reports, observe fiscal notes and retrieve archival information related to the programs we support. Isabel has also created a communication plan to not only support our students, but to provide clear guidelines for our Financial Aid Administrators, stakeholders and other divisions within our agency. Creativity has always been Isabel's strong suit – if one method of communication did not meet our standard transfer of knowledge or empathy, Isabel returns to her space to research and come back with more possible action items.

Whether Isabel decides to take on bigger roles within our agency or enter a new career pathway, I know this program will be the one to strengthen her toolbox and direction. Without a doubt, I know that Isabel will always thrive.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Murillo-Davis', with a stylized, flowing script.

Jessica Murillo-Davis, M.Ed