

Education Field

During the summer of 2016, I had job shadowed Maria Sanchez. She is the Student Support Specialist at COS; Maria recently started to work at COS providing services to the students. I had job shadowed her because one of my interests would have to be working in the education field helping students succeed in school.

Being that Maria goes into work early, I had to be at COS by 7 am. As I got there and I walked up to her office, I remember being nervous since I never job shadowed anyone before; this was a new experience for me. When I got into the TRiO office, which is the program that she works for, I greeted her. We sat down and she was on the computer finishing up paperwork that students had turned in. Being that some paper work cannot be disclosed for safety purposes, she did not tell me what she was working on. But then she started to explain to me the procedure she does once she gets to work every morning; she checks her emails, checks her tray to make sure no one else has turned in any paper work, and always checks her agenda to make sure she gets everything done.

Maria went on to explain to me how she was working on a project since the program was going to take their students on a field trip. She showed me around the office and who was the director. He talked to me for a while, then Maria started to work with students. She was tutoring them on their college courses that they were taking. One of the students had a problem with her course she Maria gave her really good advice. I saw how interactive the students were with her and how much they were benefiting from her. Towards the end of the job shadow she gave me advice too; believe in yourself and never give up. At around 12 PM, I had successfully finished my job shadow.

Over the time that I was shadowing Maria Sanchez, I learned and realized how important it is to have someone in students' lives to mentor and guide them. I really liked how the students had a very good relationship with her and how they could just go up to her and ask her anything. I liked how the education field helps people prepare the younger generation for a successful future. Also, I really loved how her job has very flexible hours and how the staff gets to go on trips with their students. Being that the workplace seemed too small, I found that to be one of my dislikes about her job. But other than that, I really enjoyed job shadowing Maria Sanchez.

After job shadowing Maria Sanchez, a person who has been working in the education field for years, I believe that I have gained interest elsewhere. The job does seem very beneficial to the staff and students, but it is a very big responsibility. Therefore, I believe that it is not an easy task trying to guide students to success and that it is not the career I would like to pursue.