

# TIPS FOR CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCHOOL

Hi/hola my name is Andrea Flores. I am the Juntos Coordinator for the Columbia Gorge serving Hood River and Wasco Counties. I identify as Mexican-American first generation and very proud of speaking both English and Spanish.

My parents were born in a small town in Michoacán, Mexico. My dad immigrated to the United States at the age of fourteen and he did not have the opportunity to pursue higher education. My mother came at the age of six, graduated high school and attended community college where she received her Associate's degree. My parents have always been influential and the reason I strive every day to be a better version of myself.

I still remember the feeling like it was yesterday: the nerve-racking excitement of applying to post-secondary education.

My junior year in high school, I was introduced to the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) at Oregon State University. Through this program, I felt a sense of belonging and inspiration and the students and staff understood my background. Oregon State University became my dream school. I could see endless opportunities and could financially afford it. Plus, it wasn't far from home.

Suerte,

**Andrea Flores**  
**Oregon State University Juntos Coordinator**  
**Hood River and Wasco Counties**

**As you're deciding what school is right for you, take into consideration these questions:**

- Have you visited the campus?
- Do you feel safe?
- Can you grow there?
- Is your community/support system there?
- Can you financially afford attending there?

**If you answered yes, then it is the right school for you. If you ever need some guidance, feel free to reach out to me at [andrea.flores@oregonstate.edu](mailto:andrea.flores@oregonstate.edu).**

