

My name is Selene Quetzal Lopez and I am 18 years of age. I am one of six children of Detention Officer, Juan Manuel Lopez and Veronica Lopez. Three of those children, myself included, are currently attending college.

Throughout my four years of high school, I was a member of National Honor Society, National Honor Society of High School Scholars, Key Club, Cross Country, and Track & Field. During the whole of my high school career, I completed all hours required to graduate, all while keeping my grades above a 3.5 Grade Point Average. Because of my dedication, I additionally earned an Academic All District Award for my participation in Cross Country. I graduated from Franklin High School in June of 2014 in the top 18% of my class. Since August of last year, I began taking classes at the Northwest campus of the El Paso Community College to acquire an Associate of Science Degree in Kinesiology. All through my first semester of college, I was enrolled in the Service Learning Program at El Paso Community College. I concluded most of my hours at the Miracle League of El Paso as I helped a baseball team comprised of disabled children play a game every Saturday morning. I took pleasure of every moment I spent with those children and I am very appreciative of being allowed to be beside them as they accomplished something great. I completed my first semester with all A's and I am currently in my second semester.

Apart from attending school, I am presently taking three classes at Hayashi's Mixed Martial Arts Academy Monday through Friday every week. Every other Saturday, I volunteer and give assistance to the dojo with tournaments and seminars as needed. I became a member of the academy three years ago and have become really good friends with the staff and other members. Besides studying mixed martial arts, I enjoy hiking and running 5K marathons with

my friends from the dojo. The dojo is also known as a hall where judo and many other mixed martial arts are practiced and performed. The people of the academy are now considered family to me and I plan to remain a member of the dojo for the rest of my life.

It is my full intention to continue taking classes at El Paso Community College until it is time for me to transfer to a four-year university to obtain a Bachelor of Science Degree in Kinesiology. I am ambitious towards becoming a Pediatric Physical Therapist. I aim to make that happen after I am accepted into the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Texas at El Paso.

I first found out I wanted to evolve into a Physical Therapist when I was at an orientation conference for Texas Tech University. As we walked around to observe and ask questions about the departments available at the university, we found the Physical Therapy programs booth. When my dad laid eyes on that booth, he recalled that he worked at a Physical Therapy clinic once as a teenager. He told me how it worked out and it ended up making me want to consider it. Not long after that I personally ended up at a Physical Therapy clinic because I dislocated my right knee in Judo. Spending quite some time in there helped me see what exactly a Physical Therapist does. I gained knowledge of what they do and I realized that I, myself, would enjoy making a difference in a child's life. I am, therefore, studying to become a Pediatric Physical Therapist. With the help of this scholarship, I intend to accomplish my goal(s).

