

# Gabriella Ballestas Flórez

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## Education

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**Clarkson University— School of Arts and Sciences**  
**Bachelor's Biological Sciences**, Honors Program  
Presidential Ignite scholarship

May 2024

**Triton College— School of Arts and Sciences**  
**Associate's Biological Sciences**, GPA 4.0

May 2022

- Phi Theta Kappa honors society member
- Collaborated with faculty to design and participate in student-led research project and presented research findings at NEIU symposium

## Experience

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### ChicagoCHEC

**Chicago, IL**

*Research Fellow*

June 2022 - August 2022

- Designed and presented a research poster presentation, “*An Analysis in the link between alcohol abuse and liver cancer in the African American population of Riverdale*”
- Analyzed the effects of Social determinants of health and the state current medical research in Chicago
- Assessed the state of health equity in the city of Chicago and recorded the community efforts in specific neighborhoods to lessen the health gap

### Triton College

**River Grove, IL**

*Peer Mentor - Biology*

August 2021 - May 2022

- Improved success and retention of enrolled students by 60% through tutoring relevant course material, provided guidance to students
- Collaborated with various divisions to connect students with resources and opportunities across campus while adhering to FERPA regulations in order to assure student confidentiality

### Starbucks Coffee Company

**Melrose Park, IL**

*Barista – Barista trainer*

January 2021-July 2022

- Supervised and trained new hires to ensure quality work in compliance with company standards while improving customer connection scores.
- Promoted and maintained a sanitary work environment to prevent foodborne illnesses

## Skills and Certificates

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Good Clinical Practice Certified | • English and Spanish native proficiency                                                                                         |
| • Mandated Reporter                | • French B2 DELF certified                                                                                                       |
| • FERPA Compliance                 | • Lab Skills: Antiseptic technique, Microscopy, Microbiological cultures, Data analysis, Preparation of solutions and lab safety |

## Affiliations

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### NASA Scholars Program: Mission I

November 2021 -December 2022

- Authored a paper on the optimization of the ECLSS system for deep space travel

### NASA Scholars Program: Mission II

February 2022

- Directed the science return section on a hypothetical manned mission to Mars and won within the Artemis division.

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

*NOAA Hollings Scholar, 2022 Cohort*