

WesternU



Meet Isabel

2023 Recipient of the
WesternU Board of Trustees Scholarship



Dear WesternU Trustees:

Thank you to the WesternU Board of Trustees for providing such an amazing award that support students during their educational endeavors. I appreciate the Board of Trustees for acknowledging and actively working to contribute to increasing diversity in nursing.

Since I come from a native community, I realized the impact of health disparities. I believe that the greater a patient is represented and understood, the more trauma informed care is practiced and ultimately offers cultural needs for patients. As a first generation native student this scholarship will support my financial needs while pursuing my masters in nursing so that I can contribute to giving back to my community and my team as a whole in the health care field. It also boosts my motivation to keep going when scholarships like the WesternU Board of Trustees are willing to support students.

My goals are to some day become a certified nurse midwife and eventually an OBGYN specializing in women's reproductive health. I plan to use the curriculum to go back and serve my community in the future.

Not only does this scholarship support my financial needs but it motivates and reassures me that as a native student my community matters. As a native student and soon to be native nurse, I will pave the way for future generations to see that they can do it too. With scholarships like the WesternU Board of Trustees it provides opportunities for my community to be represented in the field through financial support and ultimately creating paths for future generations to be inspired and follow.

Ahéhee' (Thank You in Navajo),

Isabel Tabaha Satala
MSN-E Class of 2025

Learn More About
Isabel Tabaha Satala, MSN-E 2025
\$25,000/year Award Recipient



Hometown:	Long Beach, CA
Undergrad:	Cal Poly Pomona
Degrees:	Bachelor of Science in Biology, Minor in Entrepreneurship
Hobbies/Interests:	Beadwork, Cooking, Sewing
Previous Career/Job:	Patient Care Assistant, Nanny, Social Justice Leader

What inspired you to pursue your health sciences career path? I have always had a natural inclination to help others. I enjoy empowering native students to rise above barriers and understand the importance of giving back. Growing up and not seeing many native health professionals in the medical field, I aspire to make a change and provide care for my native community. Experiencing the childbirth process, and learning about rising cesarean rates, I want to contribute to native women's health and improve their experience in the delivery room.

What is the biggest challenge you overcame on your path to WesternU? The biggest challenge I overcame was losing a fellow native student that I used to attend community events with. Her death was very hard on me during my undergraduate studies because I want all my fellow native students to seek a higher education and she was supposed to attend the native pipeline program I became a mentor for. I will always advocate for the importance of indigenous education and promoting higher education for native students while pursuing my path.

Why did you choose to attend WesternU? After attending WesternU's virtual SHPEP during the summer I was exposed to a program that was founded on humanism, community, compassionate care, and excellence of component care for the whole community. The diverse faculty and colleagues inspired me and ensured I can succeed in my goals when pursuing my master's. I first learned about WesternU through a high school program with CPP Native Pipeline, after completing my bachelor's at CPP I feel like everything is coming full circle with WesternU.

What is your proudest accomplishment? My proudest accomplishment is graduating from Cal Poly Pomona with my bachelor's debt free. I was able to succeed by making time to seek scholarship opportunities and staying in touch with my mentors/role models for guidance and support. I believe that taking time to volunteer and do outreach with my community/native organizations or collaborate with other minority and native student students during my studies has exposed me to many opportunities and resources that have contributed to my success as well.