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Triton College Graduate Recognized by Illinois CPA Society



Triton College graduate Emiliano Medellin of Brookfield was one of 39 students selected for the Illinois CPA Society's [Mary T. Washington Wylie Internship Preparation Program](#).

RIVER GROVE, III. — The Illinois CPA Society (ICPAS) and its charitable partner, the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois, recognized recent Triton College graduate Emiliano Medellin of Brookfield as a member of the 14th cohort of its annual [Mary T. Washington Wylie Internship Preparation Program](#).

Medellin, who earned an associate degree from Triton in December while studying [accounting](#), was one of 39 Illinois students selected for the program. The three-day virtual program, held in January, provided participants with practical preparation and exposure to the accounting field through resume and interview coaching, guidance on the certified public accountant (CPA) exam, and direct engagement with accounting professionals.

According to a Jan. 12 ICPAS news release, the program is designed to expand access for students who are historically underrepresented in the accounting profession, including those from racial or ethnic minority backgrounds, first-generation students, and others who have faced systemic barriers.

“It was a great opportunity,” said Medellin, who was one of 15 participants selected to receive a laptop scholarship to support his educational and professional journey. “We were introduced to the different professions within accounting, and we were given tips for interviewing, how to network, and how to position ourselves for internship or employment opportunities.”

Just weeks after graduating from Triton, Medellin has already secured an internship with an accounting firm in Western Springs, which he will begin in February. He plans to continue his education next fall, pursuing a bachelor’s degree in accounting at a four-year institution.

Reflecting on his academic journey, Medellin said his time at Triton marked a turning point. After struggling academically in high school, he became actively involved on campus, serving as an orientation leader and joining several student organizations, including the Business and Accounting Society, the Stock Market Society, and the Program Board. After excelling in a math course, Medellin was also encouraged by one of his professor’s, Mathematics Faculty Tuan Dean, to become a tutor for two semesters.

“That’s something I’m really proud of,” Medellin said. “It was definitely a great experience and it showed me how far I’ve come.”

About Medellin, Dean said he had a natural friendliness and approachable demeanor that made it easy for him to communicate with and assist his peers, making him an ideal candidate for a tutor.

“He’s one of those ideal students that every professor would love,” Dean said. “He is motivated and he has a great personality, but he also has the courage to ask questions when he’s not sure and I think that is one of his best characteristics.”

“It’s been so rewarding to see Emiliano blossom and grow more confident,” he added. “I’m very proud of him and I hope he continues to believe in himself.”

Medellin credited Triton College’s welcoming community and student support for helping him build confidence and achieve academic success.

“Coming to Triton was one of the best decisions I’ve made,” he said. “I’ve gotten to meet so many wonderful people, between the students and my professors, and I was given a lot of opportunities that I don’t think I would have had if I had done something else.”

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ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE:

Triton College is a public institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Recently recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of the Top 200 community colleges in the nation, Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs that prepare students to pursue meaningful careers, transfer to four-year universities, and thrive in a global economy. Guided by our mission—*Valuing the individual, educating and serving the community*—Triton serves nearly 12,000 students annually on its 110-acre campus in River Grove, Illinois. Our dedicated faculty and staff provide high-quality, accessible and affordable educational opportunities that empower students and strengthens the communities we serve. Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of The Illinois Community College Board. Illinois is home to 45 colleges in 39 community college districts. Learn more at triton.edu.