

Joanna A. Sanchez

Phone: 630-965-1376 Email: jsanc221@illinois.edu
Website: <https://joanna-sanchez.github.io/joanna.sanchez.rocha/> 
Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/in/joanna-s-248221122 

EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign **Start from August 2023**
Undergraduate Student at the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, School of Molecular & Cellular Biology

Waubonsee Community College **August 2017 - August 2022**
Associate in Applied Science

East Aurora High School **August 2013 - May 2017**
Graduated with honors

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

Academic Support Paraprofessional Tutor (biology/anatomy) **Spring 2023**
Waubonsee Community College

- Providing subject matter expertise and serving as models for students in the techniques, strategies, attitudes, and beliefs of successful learners
- Reviewing class material, discussing problems, reviewing tests, or working on solutions to problems
- Facilitating individual and small group tutoring sessions, and classroom visits

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Student Researcher at Waubonsee Community College **Fall 2022 - Present**
Advisor: Professor Sheela Vemu

- Leading the study of the immunogenic regions on the spike glycoproteins of the SARS-CoV-2 variants using the web-based bioinformatics platform Immune Epitope Database (IEDB)
- Optimizing the target antigens' position by developing python scripts, utilizing immune epitope prediction and analysis codes, statistical interpretation of data and creating educational materials
- Mentoring students for their honors project which uses IEDB

Jatniel Gomez and Chris Salgado (Students at Waubonsee Community College)

HONORS AND AWARDS

NIIMBL eXperience **2023**
The National Institute in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals

First place at the Illinois Water Environment Association Student Poster Competition (Newsletter) **2023**
2023 Illinois Wastewater Professionals Conference

Waubonsee Students Recognized on Fall 2020 President's List **2020**
Waubonsee Community College

The John J. Swalec, Jr. President's Achievement Award **2019**
Waubonsee Community College

Waubonsee Students Recognized on Fall 2017 President's List **2017**
Waubonsee Community College

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| Phenomenal Woman Award <i>"Schequeta Hart-Burns" Boy's II MEN</i> | 2017 |
| Junior ROTC Award of Merit <i>The Military Order of the World Wars</i> | 2017 |

CONFERENCES

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| Training the Future of the Bioeconomy: Creating Accessible Research Experiences in Protein Engineering Using the Immune Epitope Database <i>Poster presentation at PEGS Boston Summit 2023 Conference - Boston, MA</i> | May 17, 2023 |
| Mapping Immunogenic Regions in SARS-CoV-2 Variants to Understand Vaccine Design Using Bioinformatics Tools <i>Podium Session at 2023 John Saragon Albazi Research and Creative Activities Student Symposium - Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL</i> | Apr 28, 2023 |
| Mapping Immunogenic Regions in SARS-CoV-2 Variants to Understand PCR Assay Design Using Bioinformatics Tools <i>Student poster session at 2023 Illinois Wastewater Professionals Conference - Springfield, IL</i> <i>1st place winner</i> | Apr 10, 2023 |

CERTIFICATE

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| Junior Deputy Certificate <i>Kane County Sheriff's Office</i> | Summer 2016 |
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ACTIVITIES

Academic

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| Student organization MEChA / President, Vice-president, Secretary <i>Waubonsee Community College</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opened a chapter at Waubonsee that advocates for Latino students on campus Provided resources and support for students' academic success | 2019 - 2021 |
| Education Awareness Subteam / Student Leader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working in ensuring Waubonsee Community College took proactive action to protect DACA/Undocumented students Provided interactive ally training for employees at the college, and students | 2017 - 2018 |

Community Services

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| The Sideline Project / Co-founder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted community events on mental health, academic success, and overall well-being Collected data on available scholarships and opportunities for students | 2019 - 2021 |
| Student Diversity Committee / Student Leader <i>Waubonsee Community College</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curating ideas to improve students experience Assisted in organizing student events for Latinx Heritage month | 2019 - 2020 |

OUTREACH

Good Morning Aurora

2020

- Served as a special guest to speak about my advocacy work and share my story

Supporting DACA and Undocumented Students Panelist

2018

Oswego High School

- Served as a panelist for high school educators to provide guidance in supporting DACA/Undocumented students

SKILLS

Programs of Use

Python

C++

HTML

Git

MATLAB

Mathematica

Visual Studio

Microsoft Word

Microsoft Excel

Photoshop

Google Suit

Languages

English - Native / Bilingual

Spanish - Native / Bilingual