# **ELENA DODGE**



## Targeted Rural Underserved Track

### **Eastern Washington—Newport**

Entering Class of 2018

TRUST seeks to provide a continuous connection between rural, small city underserved communities, medical education, and health professionals in our region. Our goal is to create a full-circle pipeline by guiding qualified students through a special curriculum that connects continuity communities in WWAMI to the University of Washington School of Medicine and its network of affiliated residency programs in an effort to help meet the workforce needs of the region.

#### Hello Newport!

My name is Elena Dodge and I will be a first year student at the UW School of Medicine in Spokane. I am looking forward to spending time in Newport and learning about your community as I begin my medical education.

I am originally from Tacoma, WA where I grew up playing soccer, hiking, and spending time on the Puget Sound with my family. My mother is a family practice doctor and my father is a high school history teacher. I have a younger sister who is currently studying at Oregon State University.



I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Puget Sound where I majored in Molecular and Cellular Biology. My interest in medicine began in college with an internship at the Pierce County Health Depart-



ment. I had the opportunity to assist with the development of a mobile medical clinic and saw how much of an impact access to healthcare had on a person's life.

Since graduating, I have worked as a high school health and science teacher in Homedale, Idaho, a small agricultural community of 2,000. During this time I fell in love with that life in a small community has to offer, and I look forward to returning to a small town while I learn and work in Newport!

#### **Contacts**

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#### **UWSOM**

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