

# ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

## Blu Kelley | Alaska



Adult education gave Blu a love for learning. Blu, a 37-year-old mother, stated, “I have been a mom for so long I’m not sure who I am besides a momma.” Earlier in life, Blu became a mother and finishing her education never happened for her. One day she decided that she needed to go back and finish to be an example to her three children.

She began by enrolling in University of Alaska at Anchorage’s (UA) adult education program and began to study for her GED. The work was difficult at first, but as she progressed she felt that she began to build momentum. The gains she made became so much more than simply studying to pass an exam. She states, “I have learned that I enjoy learning and am good at it. I want to learn everything! I have even found myself enjoying subjects I once despised. However, the biggest success since entering adult education has definitely been my self-esteem. I feel great about myself and the things I have accomplished this far.”

Blu’s increased self-esteem gives her children a new love and appreciation for education as well. She now feels confident to help them in their school work and be a more active part of their educational experiences.

Today, Blu has passed all of the sections of the GED and is ready to pursue a new dream. Her newfound love of knowledge has propelled her to want to become a registered nurse (RN). She plans to enroll in a nursing program and in her own words, “learn everything I possibly can!” ■

*Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive*