

# ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Patrick Martin | Tennessee



Adult education had been an ongoing process for Patrick since he was 17-years-old. He had the goal of passing the HiSET® exam, however, due to a drug and alcohol addiction, he kept putting adult education off. His wife, Ashley, a mother to Patrick's seven children, did not give up and continued to encourage him to go back.

After 22 years of addiction, Patrick decided it was time to turn over a new leaf in his life. He joined a Narcotics Anonymous group and began to put the work in. He knew he needed to revisit adult education and not give up this time. Patrick, at the age of 33, finally enrolled in adult education, completed his HiSET® exam, and obtained his high school equivalency diploma. This was his first step to success for him as well as his wife and seven children.

On July 24th, 2022, Patrick celebrated one full year of being sober. Today, Patrick is employed with Magotteaux Mining Solutions and is making a salary of \$60,000 a year. He is thoroughly enjoying his new career and wants to continue with this company for the next 5 to 10 years.

His ultimate goal is to give back to the community that helped him get out of the addiction cycle he had been in. He plans to build a business of sober-living-houses, and wants to create a non-profit organization based upon addiction recovery. He wants to use the lessons he's learned during his journey to help others navigate these challenges. ■

*Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive*