

ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY



Quang "Howie" Cao | Kansas



Adult education provided English skills to Quang "Howie" Cao, but the educational vision it provided, led him to so much more. Howie came to the United States five years ago from Vietnam. He entered adult education English as a second language (ESL) classes at the Wichita Indochinese Center (WIC) to improve his English language skills. He is a determined young man who is proud of his culture, his family, and the skills he brought with him. He graduated high school while in Vietnam and had a goal to go to college, but that dream was put on hold when his family immigrated to the United States.

While an ESL student, he signed up for WIC's Intro to Career Pathways STEM class.

This experience piqued his interest in Engineering. After one and a half years attending ESL classes, he entered the Transitions Class. This class is aimed at transitioning ESL students from English language classes to adult basic education classes for GED® and/or college prep. He then enrolled in a college preparatory program that pairs students with a coach who monitors homework, class attendance, and helps with questions the students may have. Howie completed the 2-year preparatory program in Spring of 2022, successfully completed his GED®, maintained all A's and B's in his classes, passed the OSHA 10 certification, and earned his Engineering Technology Certificate. ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive