

ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Ashlyn Woolsey | Colorado



Adult education has opened up several career paths to Ashlyn. Ashlyn had always struggled to learn in the regular school system, and one day she finally decided to drop out. Looking to get her young life off to a better start, she was connected to the WIOA Future U Program (WFUP) at Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center. For the first time, she felt like she was in an environment where she could learn at her own pace. With her teachers' care and dedication, she obtained her GED® at 18 years old. She was back on track.

Ashlyn is currently teaching full-time at an early learning center. She is grateful for the learning opportunity that this position has been, but she is excited for the wider array of options that her new diploma has opened up for her. With her GED® in hand, Ashlyn can now consider college as an obtainable, realistic path forward. In fact, she has had the opportunity to attend a Healthcare Careers program through Arapahoe Community College (ACC) in Littleton this summer, and the presenters opened her eyes to some of the options that are available to her now. Today Ashlyn is especially interested in pursuing a career in phlebotomy. She has already begun shadowing phlebotomists and hopes to begin attending courses at ACC next year. Like most 18-year-olds, Ashlyn says she is still trying to figure out her place. Adult education has opened up doors to help her do just that. ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive