



ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Lynn Hamblin | Oregon



Lynn found a network of support in adult education. She says of her adult education class peers, “Whether you were homeschooled, hated high school, or like me, waited 20 years to go back... we all had one thing in common: we wanted to obtain our GED® [credential], and that goal gave us an instant bond.”

Back in 2019, against all odds, Lynn took the first step on her 41st birthday and joined adult basic education classes to obtain her high school equivalency diploma at Rogue Community College (RCC). She immediately made friends and found study partners. She was well on her way to graduating in June of 2020 when suddenly the pandemic hit. Her tests were canceled. Devastated, Lynn decided to give up. She had four-year-old twins at the time, and she had no hope of completing her education from home. Or so she thought.

Before the fall term began, a fellow classmate and study partner reached out to her and encouraged her that she could do it. Two days before the classes started, Lynn became convinced that her support network would help get her through. She states, “Through all odds, kids at home, internet failures, learning how to use and navigate Zoom. We stayed strong and we did it!”

By the end of the 2020 school year, Lynn passed all four GED® tests and took four credit-bearing courses: Psych 101, Math 60, Business Math and Business English. These credit classes, funded by state and local grants, directly related to her Business Assistant Certificate she is working towards. Today she has been nominated to be a 2021 COABE Outstanding Adult Learner of the Year and continues to work toward her career goals. ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive