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COALITION ON ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

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ADULT EDUCATION
An Investment in America's Future



ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Juan Puac | Ohio (Aspire)

Adult education filled Juan with promise in a new country. Juan came to this country as a teenager with his father. As a newcomer in Cleveland, Juan felt isolated behind his language barrier. As he grew older, the language barrier became smaller, but the educational barrier to a successful career was still looming. With no diploma, he took various odd jobs and eventually settled into being a dishwasher for a local restaurant.

Juan decided he wanted more in life. When he enrolled in the Aspire program in 2021, his goal came within reach. It was difficult for him to work full time and study for the exam. However, he took the practice test and used his successful practice test score to gain a voucher that would pay for his GED® exam. In November of the same year, Juan passed all sections of his GED® test and enrolled in a local community college during the Spring semester of 2022.

Today Juan is continuing to work on an Associate of Arts degree. His goal is to complete this two-year program and transfer to Colorado State University to obtain a degree in accounting. His story has inspired others around him, and he was the speaker at the June 2022 Ohio Options commencement ceremony. His drive to succeed will continue to inspire others and make his own father exceptionally proud. ■