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ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Leandra Perez | Ohio (Tri-C Western Campus)

Adult education gave Leandra the confidence to achieve her goals. At sixteen, Leandra tried to finish her high school diploma, but life circumstances got in the way. In her late twenties, Leandra realized that it was time to take charge of her life by furthering her education.

Everyone's responses to the COVID-19 pandemic shut down were different. Some people binged TV shows. Some people pursued new hobbies. Leandra dove into learning. With the extra downtime, she buckled down on her education like never before. To her surprise, she discovered in herself a passion for learning. By October of 2021, she had passed all of her exams and became a graduate, accomplishing something that she had wanted since she was sixteen.

Her newfound love of learning was due in no small part to her teachers at Tri-C Western. They welcomed her. They were happy to discuss anything and everything with her. When it was necessary, they pushed even further. With their support, she began to truly believe in herself.

Leandra's future plans are to continue in her education, growing and learning as much as she can. Moreover, she wants to help others to do the same. She wants to teach others to believe in themselves, too, because she knows firsthand what an impact someone like that can be. Her first piece of advice is that "It is never too late to feel a sense of accomplishment... If you put in the work, it does pay off." ■