



**COABE**  
COALITION ON ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

educate&  
**elevate**  
ADULT EDUCATION  
An Investment in America's Future



## ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Marianna Avetyan | California

Marianna sought adult education when she immigrated here to the United States. When she moved here at 17 years old, Marianna feared she would not finish high school in time due to her language barrier, so she enrolled in an adult basic secondary education program at Glendale Community College on Garfield Campus so that she could pursue her GED® credential. She states, “It was a really stressful and difficult period in my life.” She studied hard for her GED® exam and also enrolled in an English skills class to help strengthen her language skills for her future in the country.

Before long, Marianna’s hard work paid off! She passed her GED® exam and also passed English 101, an English preparation course for college. Today, Marianna has finished her high school equivalency diploma and plans to go into higher education. She is interested in getting her bachelor’s degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and later obtaining her master’s degree either in the same field of study, or in another education-related field.

She wants to give back to her community and help other students, like her, feel comfortable when they come to the United States. She says, “I want to become an ESL Instructor to help immigrant students improve their English language level and achieve their educational goals!” ■