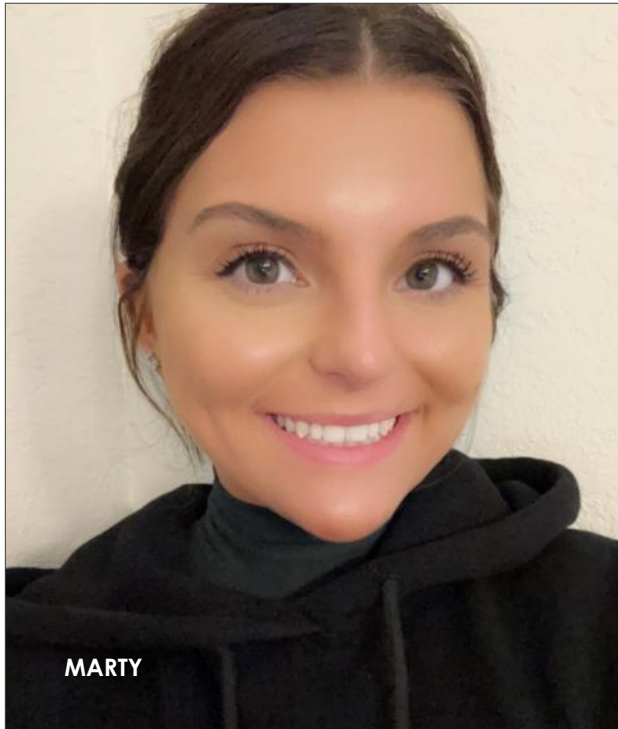


"I am a step closer to my dream of becoming a nurse and I am thrilled."



One year ago, Marty was working as a Personal Support Worker (PSW). She decided that the time was right to grab her dreams and ambitions from the shelf and go for it.

"A year ago. I was working full-time as a personal support worker at a nursing home," she says, "and never imagined I would be doing nursing at Georgian College."

Marty had considered Georgian's Practical Nursing program several years ago; but discovered that she was missing the necessary Math and Chemistry admission prerequisites. Though she looked into upgrading, the timing wasn't right and things didn't work out.

In the summer of 2021, she took the bull by the horns and thought... if not now, then when?

Marty registered in Georgian's Academic & Career Preparation (ACP) upgrading program, and the rest is history.

By taking charge of her situation, she made it happen. "I returned to upgrading during the pandemic," she says. "I knew that the timing was right because I wanted to be more and help others at an even greater level."

She completed her Academic & Career Entrance (ACE) credits from start to finish via remote learning.

Marty's advice to anyone considering upgrading is to just do it. "Anything is possible if you put your mind to it," she advises. "The ACP program at Georgian is incredible. The teachers are supportive and will go the extra mile to ensure that you are understanding the concepts. I wouldn't be in the nursing program today if it weren't for them."

Marty says that Georgian's upgrading program helped prepare her for college. She is "confident about her learning" and feels both "physically and mentally prepared." In upgrading, Marty learned skills to help "focus on time management, which is essential as a student, from work, school and personal life balance." She was nervous about pursuing her studies in nursing; but she says that the teachers from ACP encouraged and reassured her that her decision was the right one.

"Getting accepted into nursing school is one of the biggest milestones and achievements I have made in my life," she says. "I am a step closer to reaching my goal to become a nurse and I am thrilled."

—submitted by Wendy Alger, Georgian College

