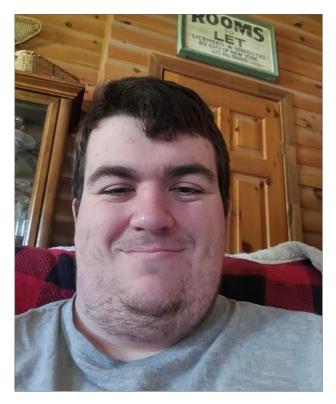# "I am incredibly grateful for the ACE program and the skills I have acquired from it."

Noah, Loyalist College Upgrading

LOYALiST COLLEGE

"When I was in Grade 1, my parents decided to homeschool. I was taught long-form division, multiplication and basic fractions. I learned grammar from reading my favourite story books. I even learned basic automotive repair and maintenance. I ended up learning other things that fascinated me as well, including how to build gaming computers and troubleshoot computer issues.

At age 21, I got my first real job. It was retail, which seemed okay at the time. But I quickly decided that it wasn't for me.

Through online job searches, I discovered that most employers want applicants to have a high school diploma — something that I didn't have. I knew that I didn't even have the necessary skills to "fake it till you make it." So, with a little help and a gentle shove from some friends, I started to look for ways to get educated to find better work.

My cousin mentioned that there might be a program at Loyalist College. I checked out their website and, sure enough, Loyalist had an academic upgrading program called ACE — Academic and Career Entrance — that could help me earn my grade 12 equivalency.

Once I started the ACE program, I learned much more math and grammar. This has allowed me to succeed professionally, in my current job as a service writer, and at home.

I continue to use what I have learned in the computers class to this day for personal budgets and for tasks at my current employment.

The staff and faculty make it amazingly easy to learn and are very accommodating to students' needs. In sum, I am incredibly grateful for the ACE program, and the skills I have acquired from it." —*Noah*