



TAKE A STEP FORWARD JOEL DID IT AND SO CAN YOU

After being passed over for two promotions at work, 32-year-old Joel Fuce realized he needed to make a change. As a sales manager for a state-wide distributing company, he had stopped and started college four times since graduating from Portage Northern High School in 2008.

“Getting a degree was never that important to me,” Fuce said. “For the field I work in, it wasn’t required.”

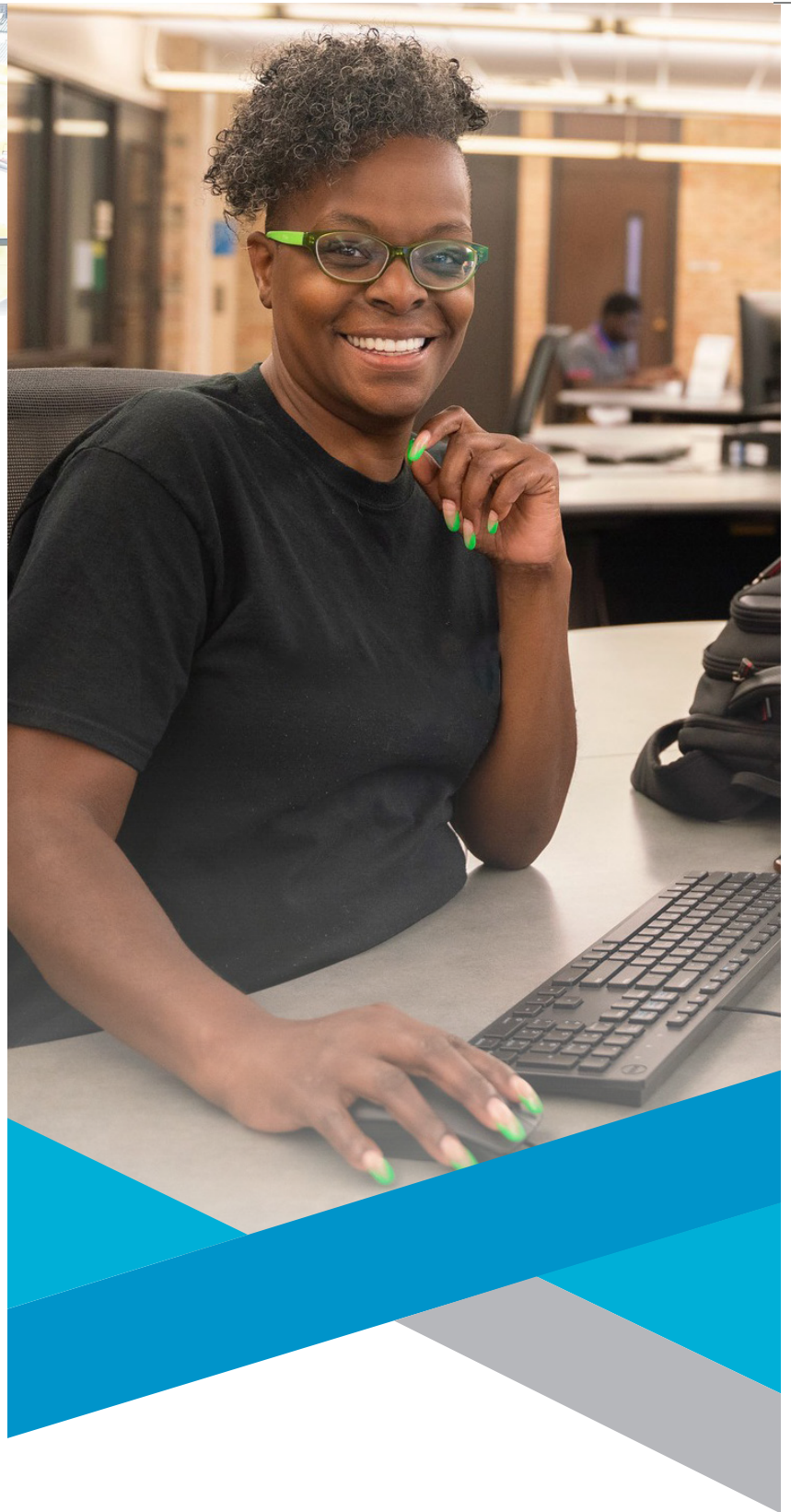
However, as his role within the company grew and he wanted to take on more responsibilities, his boss told him not having a degree was a “gigantic red flag.”

“A degree used to open doors for people,” he said. “Now, a degree just lets you knock on that door.”

Determined to not be passed over for a promotion again, Fuce decided to make completing his degree a priority. He is now in his second semester at Kalamazoo Valley working toward a degree in business administration, attending tuition-free thanks to the Michigan Reconnect scholarship.

With a full-time job and a five year-old son, Fuce is taking seven credit hours in the online business program.

“It’s going to take me a while but I finally figured out what works for me and my schedule,” he said. “I’m building a routine and prioritizing my time to keep me on track. There’s been a learning curve with class being online but everything I’m learning I’ve been able to apply to my job.”



EDUCATION HAS NO AGE LIMIT: A GUIDE FOR ADULT STUDENTS



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IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN!

At Kalamazoo Valley Community College, adults of all ages are welcome. Whether you're 25 or 65, it's your first time in college or you're returning after many years away, you will find the resources and support you need to be successful. Our adult learner enrollment specialist is here to help you every step of the way. Call 269.488.4303 for assistance.

GET STARTED TODAY!

ADMISSION: Complete a free application online at www.kvcc.edu/apply.

ASSESSMENT: In order to determine which math and English classes you should begin with, you will take our free placement test. Visit the Testing Center on Texas Township Campus, Room 2210 or the Arcadia Commons Campus in Anna Whitten Hall, Room 211 to complete the placement test. Call 269.488.4235 (TTC) or 269.373.7800 (ACC) for more information.

ADULT STUDENT ORIENTATION: Get introduced to the Kalamazoo valley campuses and the services available to you by completing orientation. To complete online orientation, log into MyValley. Your account information is provided in your acceptance letter. Go to My Links and select New Student Online Orientation. Then select Adult, Transfer and Returning Student Orientation from My Dashboard.

ADVISING AND COUNSELING: Make an appointment to meet with an advisor or counselor to select your first semester classes. Meet in person, online or over the phone. They will help you with your first semester of classes. To make an appointment, call 269.488.4040.

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

FAFSA: If you are pursuing a degree or certificate and plan to apply for financial aid, it is important that you complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible to start the financial aid process for the appropriate award year. Kalamazoo Valley's federal school code is 006949.

MICHIGAN RECONNECT: Adults age 25 years and older who have lived in Michigan for a year or more, have a high school diploma or GED and have not

yet completed an associate or bachelor's degree are eligible for the Michigan Reconnect scholarship, which pays for in-district tuition and mandatory fees after other state and federal financial aid have been applied. Apply at www.kvcc.edu/reconnect.

KALAMAZOO PROMISE: If you are Kalamazoo Promise-eligible, you have 10 years from the date of your high school graduation to use the Kalamazoo Promise scholarship. To see if you're eligible, call 269.337.0037.

EXPERIENCE COUNTS

PRIOR LEARNING: Get credit for what you already know through Prior Learning Assessment (PLA). PLA is the evaluation and assessment of your life learning for college credit. The knowledge you have accumulated may be equivalent to college-level learning and therefore may be eligible for college credit. Call 269.488.4873 to learn more.

COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM

(CLEP) TESTING: CLEP offers 34 exams that cover introductory level college course material. With a passing score on one CLEP exam, you could earn three or more college credits, saving you time and money. Call 269.488.4235 to learn more.

REGISTER: Register for classes online in your MyValley account. Registration begins in March for summer, April for fall, October for winter and continues through the start of classes.

STUDENT ID: To request a Valley ID Card, upload your photograph in MyValley, under the tab Valley ID Request. A Valley ID card is needed to use many student services, including parking validation and door access at our downtown campuses.

