

# Job Seeker Success Story

## HiSET Graduate Profile



**Juan Valentin**

Juan Valentin was born and raised in Worcester by his father. He has three brothers, including an identical twin, and one sister. Growing up in a large, complicated family was the norm for Juan, but he faced some troubling experiences that made his childhood more difficult than most. He never really enjoyed school and by the time he reached high school, he decided that getting an education wasn't the right path for him.

It took time, but he figured out that he wasn't getting anywhere without that education. Jobs were hard to come by, and the ones he could find were unstable and unreliable. After being laid off from another low-level job, he started taking classes at Training Resources of America (TRA). They were able to assist him in passing four of the five high school equivalency exams, but the math remained out of reach.

While in class there, he heard that the career center could help him get occupational training. He came here for training assistance but when he met with Cheryl Kelly, she told him about our class to help him pass the final HiSET test. Knowing that the high school equivalency diploma was his ticket out of dead-end jobs, he enrolled in the class. It was a long, hard eight months to master the very complex mathematics that the HiSET requires, but he did it - and with points to spare! Woohoo!!!!

Now that Juan has that all-important diploma, he's making plans for his bright future! His first step is CNA training with EKG and Phlebotomy so he can start a career in nursing that began with PCA jobs. After that, he's looking at QCC for an LPN degree. With his dedication and compassion, I think nursing is the perfect career path for him. Congratulations Juan and best of luck!!!

*"The best thing about this class was that the teacher could give each of us one-on-one attention and focus. Without that, I could never have gotten the math."-Juan Valentin*

***Workforce Central operates a full-time, intensive adult education class at the Worcester location. It has been in operation for 20 years and boasts a 100% success rate with high school equivalency students for the past 8 years. The program is free for anyone who meets Workforce Investment Act (WIA) guidelines for eligibility (legally able to work in the US,***



***Selective Service compliant, etc). The class runs year-round on an open enrollment basis.  
Contact Workforce Central for more information.***