## "Upgrading was the tool I needed to forge a new future."

"Making the decision to return to school as a mature student was overwhelming.

I had been out of school for over twenty years, working part time jobs at minimum wage while raising five children.

As my children grew, I decided it was time for me. I placed a call to the Midland Campus of Georgian College and, before I knew it, I was on my way to adult upgrading in the College and Career Preparation (CCP) program.

My plan was to write my GED and move into the health care field. But plans change!

I was intrigued when I learned about a preapprenticeship program through the college that included small engine, marine engine and welding.

I couldn't imagine doing something like welding, but I was given an opportunity to try it – and I loved it!! I applied to the program and was accepted.

I achieved my ACE Certificate (giving me my grade 12 equivalency), learned a lot about the three trades and completed a 340-hour work placement.

Now I am a part-time employee at the college working as a technician in the welding shop. It is a thrill for me to go to work every day and have the opportunity to learn and grow.

The opportunities for me seem endless!

Upgrading was the tool I needed to forge a new future. Thanks to everyone at Georgian College, I have the skills I need to succeed.



"The instructors in the upgrading program were very supportive and gave me the confidence I needed. The advice I received was life-changing."

