



CLEVELAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SUCCESS
STORY

Jonathan “Jay” Miller
Associate in Applied Science, Emergency Medical Science

Jonathan “Jay” Miller finished what he started in May 2014. For Miller, being in what he considered the “cool crowd” almost cost him his education and a promising future.

He began his educational career at CCC through The Learning Center not once, but two times. Miller said the first time he was more interested in hanging out with his friends instead of getting an education, but after the birth of his daughter, Alyssa, everything changed and he wanted to do something to make her proud. “I decided to do something with my life that would make her proud and working dead-end jobs wasn’t going to do it.”

Miller didn’t waste any time coming back to The Learning Center and set his sights on earning his GED. In just three months he was successful and attributes much of his success to Basic Skills Recruiter Jerry Hopper and instructors who helped him along the way. “Jerry Hopper honored every promise he made to me and even when it wasn’t his job he was willing to go the extra mile to help me out. My instructors also believed in me even when I didn’t believe in myself. They gave me the extra push to learn what I needed to further my education,” says Miller.

After earning his GED, Jonathan Miller has gone on to become President of the Student Government Association at CCC. He is also a member of the Sigma Alpha Pi National Society of Leadership and earned his EMT Basic and Paramedic certification. In May 2014, Jonathan walked across the stage at graduation and earned his Associate in Applied Science degree in Emergency Medical Science. Miller’s next stop is Western Carolina University where he will pursue his Bachelor of Science degree in Emergency Medical Science and is even considering taking the MCAT for entry to medical school.

“There was a time in my life when I never thought any of this was possible, but getting an education has shown me that anything is possible. My greatest inspirations have been my daughter and my mom who have kept me motivated on my educational journey and coming to CCC has been the greatest thing I could have ever done for my future,” Miller says. “God has shown me that despite adversity, you can accomplish anything with dedication and hard work. If I can do it, anyone can.”

