

# SCOTT LIN

## Central Nine Adult Education Success Story



### Meet Scott-

Education has always been an important goal in my life. I came to America when I was 16 years old and attended Richmond High School for two years, but I was not able to finish school at that time. Because of the language barrier, learning in high school was difficult, and much of my learning came through work and life experiences instead.

Over the years, I worked hard to build a life and eventually owned my own business for ten years. After my business ended a few years ago, I heard about Central Nine Adult Education offering English classes and HSE preparation. It felt like an opportunity I had been waiting for for 25 years, and I decided to begin my education journey again without hesitation.

**“I can do it, you can do it.”**

### Challenges Along the Way

Returning to school after 24 years was not easy. At 41 years old, balancing learning English, studying academic subjects, and adjusting to classroom expectations was mentally and physically exhausting. Reading and concentrating for long periods was especially difficult, and there were times I struggled to stay focused and awake while studying.

Despite those challenges, I continued searching for strategies that worked for me. I learned to alternate between reading articles and working on math problems to keep my mind active. I also developed a study routine where I would read silently, look up unfamiliar vocabulary, and then read aloud to improve my understanding and pronunciation. Over time, I realized that people can adapt and grow through persistence and determination.

### Finding Confidence Through Learning

When I first started at Central Nine, my orientation scores placed me at an M level in reading, math, and language. Although I felt average at first, things began to change once I entered Pre-HiSET classes. My reading teacher, Suzi, helped spark my passion for learning by encouraging discussions, critical thinking, and curiosity. My math and language teacher, Renee, helped me make tremendous academic progress in only seven months. Through her instruction, my language score increased from M575 to D635, and my math score increased from M595 to A663. The supportive environment and encouragement from teachers helped me build confidence and adapt to the intensity of studying again.

### Study Strategies and Growth

One of the biggest keys to my success was developing my own learning style. I believe in listening quickly, thinking deeply, and applying knowledge accurately. I learned how to organize information, connect ideas together, and use what I learned to better understand history, government, and real-world situations.

For me, learning became exciting once I discovered the right strategies. I believe everyone learns differently, and continuing to adjust and improve study habits is important for growth and success.

### Impact of the Program

Central Nine Adult Education gave me the opportunity to restart my education journey after many years away from school. The program not only helped me improve my academic skills and English language abilities, but also rebuilt my confidence in myself as a learner.

My journey shows that it is never too late to continue learning, no matter your age or background. Through perseverance, supportive teachers, and dedication, I was able to overcome barriers and move closer to my goals.

### Looking Ahead

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"Despite the challenges that often come with being a non-native English speaker, Scott demonstrated remarkable determination and perseverance. He worked tirelessly to overcome language barriers and successfully earned his high school equivalency diploma. Scott's resilience, dedication, and commitment to his education truly make him an exceptional student."

-Renee Gregory



Scott and his teacher Suzi