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## Message from Complete Florida

Greetings! We are off to a strong start in 2020 by creating new ways to reach returning adult learners through strategic partnerships. Recently, we met with the Florida Workforce Development Association to discuss the use of our newly launched Salesforce CRM to develop a referral system for serving returning adult learners together. Our goal is to help students navigate the services

they need to support both their education and career goals. We are proud to partner with the Florida Workforce Development Association and CareerSource Florida to align and strengthen our work leading to a stronger talent pipeline. If you have ideas about partnerships, please [contact me](#). We are eager to identify more ways to work together.

Michelle Horton, Ed.D.  
Director of Complete Florida



## Attend FCAN Summit

Interested in joining hundreds of professionals from across the state when they meet to discuss policies and

practices that affect student success? Attend the 2020 Florida College Access Network Summit May 12 and 13 in Orlando. Don't miss the Complete Florida session, "Talent Pipelines: Returning Adult Students Bridge the Gap Between Higher Ed and the Workforce." It features recent graduates and current returning adult students who can offer perspectives on the support necessary to help adults return, persist, graduate and get the education they need for the jobs they want. Join a round-robin discussion followed by an interactive panel presentation about the vital connection between academia and the workplace. Besides the Complete Florida presentation, there are 34 other break-out sessions that highlight innovative approaches in these focus areas:

- College access
- Postsecondary success and completion
- Affordability
- Data, research, and measuring impact
- Career readiness and workforce development
- Collective impact

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## Student Spotlight: USF Degree Enhances Experience

John, 46, is a chief technical officer for a company in Orlando. He is also earning a degree in information architecture at the University of South Florida.

"At this stage in my career, I know that finishing my bachelor's will allow me many different professional options that could lead to more earning potential," John said.

Since returning to school at USF, John has expanded the scope of his responsibilities at work based on what he is learning in his information architecture classes. Specifically, after taking a security open-source intelligence course, John enhanced his internet investigative skills to help implement some new policies that minimize online exposure.

John has been going to college off and on for the past 20 years since he finished four years of service in the Army right after high school. Earning a living at various jobs and providing for his children were the priorities for a number of years, but his family has a multi-generational appreciation for education. John always planned to finish his degree. He had a good example. John's mother went back to college as an adult and finished her degree when she was in her 40s. John and his wife's oldest son is out of college, but two of their children are attending college now. Their youngest, who is 16, plans to go to college, too.

"I am on track to finish in the fall, and my wife and I are seriously talking about her going back to college next," John said. "It's her turn, and I would definitely recommend that she use Complete Florida's coaching services, plus there is the availability of scholarships, which is an outstanding part of the program."



## Save the Date for March Networking Webinar

Attend the next session of the Complete Florida Networking Group. The session, "Credit for Training and Experience: Military Alignment" will be led by Connie Beene, senior director, adult and career technical education at the Kansas Board of Regents. The meeting is at 2:30 p.m. Eastern March 20, and we will send a Webex invitation 48

hours in advance of the event. Please submit questions when you register for this free event.

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## What We're Reading

- [Florida Workforce 2030: An Updated Look at Building America's Best Workforce](#)
- [Delivering Continuing Ed to Different Generations of Adult Learners](#)



## Who Are We?

Complete Florida is a high-tech, low-hassle, online program for busy adults to finish their college degree and land their dream job. We provide free concierge coaching services for students returning to college.

[CompleteFlorida.org](http://CompleteFlorida.org)

## By the Numbers

20 Partner schools

200+ Degree programs

11,405+ Students working with a Complete Florida Coach

\$1.6 million+ Awarded in scholarships from Complete Florida

1,754 Graduates



## FAQs Surrounding Financial Aid

February's Networking Group focused on frequently asked questions returning adult learners have about financial aid and the FAFSA. If you missed this month's meeting, click the video above to view a recording.

## What Students are Saying

"I want to wholly understand entrepreneurship. I plan to use the knowledge and tools that I am provided in my business degree to help my company and my team grow."

Elizabeth

Florida State College at Jacksonville

"After my bachelor's in interdisciplinary studies, I will go on to get my master's degree so I can teach. There is nothing fancy about my goals, just the simple pursuit of finishing a worthy goal."

George

Florida International University

"I am 43 years old and working on my BSN. Nursing is part of who I am, and I want nothing more than to continue to learn and grow in my profession just as I have for the past 23 years."

Melyssa

University of West Florida

"I have one course left before graduating with my associate degree, and I plan to start my journey to receiving my bachelor's without looking back. My plan is to move forward in a degree based in social work."

Chandra

Polk State College

"As I pursue an organizational leadership degree, I am very excited by the future possibilities. I have also encouraged a few co-workers to sign back up for school, and I have become a walking motivator in helping people reach their goals."

Roger

St. Thomas University

Contact Complete Florida

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