



## Kayla Hoy pursues her educational goal with support from T-Mobile

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As a T-Mobile employee, Kayla Hoy\* would often read flyers and attend company career fairs that promoted the educational benefits available to her. But she didn't take it seriously until after she gave birth to her son, who was born with developmental delays and craniosynostosis, a premature fusion of the cranial plates. "I have a bachelor's in psychology," Kayla said. "And through my son's neuropsychology appointments and working with a developmental coordinator, I got immersed in it again. It inspired me to pursue my master's in psychology with a specialization in childhood and adolescent development."

Through T-Mobile's partnership with Capella, Kayla was able to take advantage of tuition coverage for her degree, which she's earning using the GuidedPath learning format. She said the structure of Capella's online program gives her the right combination of independence and support. "I thought going back to school would be more chaotic but it's been very manageable," she said. "I can get my master's degree even with a young family and working full time."

Kayla said her enrollment counselor helped her get settled in her program, and that she checks in regularly with her academic advisor so she stays on track with her degree. "The team at Capella is not only passionate about what they do but passionate about helping others," she said. "They understand it's not just about going to class. You have to be disciplined and get your work done, which requires some scheduling, although it can be easier than people think it is."

Her supervisor at T-Mobile is also supportive. "He's earning his degree through Capella, too," Kayla explained. "So we talk about our programs and he understands what I'm doing. This is part of my career development and he wants to make sure I get time to devote to that."

Her coursework is already helping her in her role as a messaging expert. "I started learning information I could apply to my job right away," she said. "My orientation course covered stagnant mindset versus growth mindset and critical thinking. And through my classes I've learned about leadership, which has increased my confidence. I'm more engaged with what's going on with my team."

Her advice for other T-Mobile employees contemplating a return to school is to consider Capella. "The way Capella structures their program is perfect if you need to also work and balance your life," Kayla said. "And this is the best situation to be in because T-Mobile offers tuition assistance. They want to see that development and enrichment take place for you as a human being."

*\* Actual Capella learner who agreed to appear in promotional materials for Capella*



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