



Jason Dingess

Biography



My name is Jason Dingess, a 38-year-old male who resides in Logan County. I am a single father of 4 children, ages 8, 10, 11, and 13. I would have never imagined that a painful knee surgery would take me on such a wonderful journey. I was sitting and thinking about what I was going to do with my life, while I was recovering from a total knee replacement, and needing the right knee replaced that has a half metal foot. During my recovery, I talked with a Hospice counselor in debating what I was going to do with my life at that time, and he guided me towards going to college.

As a young man, I always liked to tinker and build computers, so I thought why not choose the Information Technology program at Southern and enroll in courses that I am passionate about. The Logan Campus has a “down to earth feeling” with such a friendly atmosphere. I really enjoy talking with the staff and faculty. The TANF program’s Student Services specialist has helped me so much with advising, mentoring, and monitoring my road to success throughout my entire program. Without the TANF program, I couldn’t have been as successful as I have. She and the others in Student Services sincerely make you feel as if they care about you while receiving a quality education.

In addition to my coursework, I applied for a position as a Work Study and have been working in the IT Department these last two semesters. It has given me an opportunity to get some “hands-on” experience. It has enhanced my learning, along with classroom instruction, much more than I had dreamed. I made Dean’s List the last three semesters and plan on doing academically well again this semester.

I will complete my program of study in December 2017, and graduate with my Associate’s Degree in Information Technology in Applied Science in May 2018. I plan on furthering my education to obtain a Bachelor’s Degree in Information Technology, but I haven’t decided on what I want to do in this field, or which university I would like to attend.

Upon completion of my program, my girlfriend and I are opening a Pet Grooming Shop in Madison, WV. The skills I have built upon at Southern will be useful in writing programs and pc maintenance. In my opinion, Southern is a great community college that is local and affordable. They have low tuition, a low ratio of students per instructor, and a very friendly staff in Student Services. If you are thinking about going to college, give Southern the opportunity to show you all of the programs they have to offer.