



## Minnesota Student and Graduate Profile

In 2001, Todd Anderson was a single parent to two children, working full time, and attending college. Although it was a difficult time for him and his family, Todd persevered and graduated from the Cisco® Networking Academy® at Minnesota State and Technical College (MSTC) in Fergus Falls, Minnesota in 2003.

Today, Todd is working full time at Communicating for America Education Programs, LLC as a Webmaster, continuing his studies in computer programming, and pursuing his dream of working in the technology industry. “The Networking Academy was a perfect choice for me. It really exposed a side of computer technology I had never seen and gave me a clear view of how big the world really is.”

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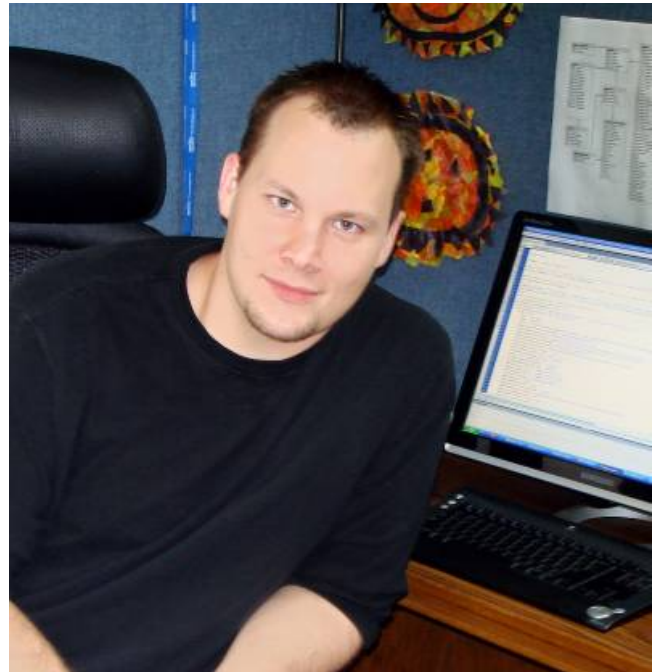
### **Todd Anderson**

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According to Todd, he has always had a strong interest in technology. He remembers being eight years old and working on his first computer. “I believe it was a Macintosh Plus. I fell in love with computers and, at that point, I knew what I wanted to do for the rest of my life.” Todd remembers telling his mother at the age of ten that he wanted to be a computer programmer.

Throughout high school, Todd became more interested in pursuing a path in technology, and once he enrolled at Minnesota State and Technical College in 2001 he began the Networking Academy’s Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA®) course.

“The Networking Academy labs were great for hands-on learning, my instructors had excellent understanding of the applied technologies, and the content was detailed and easy to understand.” During Todd’s third semester, he faced a few challenges. “I became a single parent to a one- and a three-year-old.



This was a very difficult and emotional time for me and working to make ends meet made it very difficult to focus on my studies.” Todd’s determination, patience, and desire to learn led him to success. He accepted an internship with a local company where he helped design and set up the company’s network, and by 2003 he had completed his Networking Academy coursework.

In his current position as a Webmaster, Todd’s responsibilities consist of server and network management and administration, computer programming, and hardware management. “The Networking Academy gave me a very clear vision of the entire process of computer communication, which I have used in wide spectrum of computer technologies, such as building online management applications, management of computer networks and operating systems, and even buying new hardware.”

Todd continues to build upon that vision. In September of 2007, he returned to MSTC to continue his studies in computer networking and programming.

For more information on the Networking Academy at Minnesota State and Technical College-Fergus Falls, visit:

[http://www.minnesota.edu/campuses/fergus\\_falls/](http://www.minnesota.edu/campuses/fergus_falls/)

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