

Jose David Valles' Success Story

Jose David Valles left Cuba with his mother to come to Miami, Florida, in May 2021. Upon arriving, he realized he needed to learn more English in order to achieve his goal, to enroll in an institution of higher education.



He registered for the ESOL program in Adult Education at Miami Dade College's Kendall Campus and tested into ESOL Level 5 in October 2021. At the same time, Jose David also pursued his GED studies and worked full-time to support his mother and himself. After three months of ESOL and GED studies, he graduated from the ESOL Program and received his GED diploma in January 2022.

Determined to pursue his goal of enrolling in college classes, he registered for credit-based classes at Miami Dade College in January 2022. While majoring in Chemistry, he began working as a tutor for the Chemistry Department, helping fellow students understand the material and excel in their classes. Furthermore, he has also been participating in research projects with professors from the Chemistry Department at MDC.

Jose David graduated from Miami Dade College with an Associate of Science degree in Chemistry in May 2023. He recently learned that a paper, including his research, has been accepted for publication by The Royal Society of Chemistry in

June 2023. In August 2023, he is scheduled to present the paper's findings at The American Chemical Society's Annual Conference in San Francisco, California.

Currently, Jose David was accepted in the University of Florida, where he plans to continue his studies and do research in chemistry and biology.

Jose David can best be described in one of his guiding principles is to "learn to seek the best in simplicity."