

## <u>David Lopez</u> Brecksville-Broadview Heights



David Lopez, a recent graduate of Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School and the Medical Administrative Specialist (MAS) program at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC), is already setting his sights on a meaningful future. Taught by instructor Lisa Clements, the MAS program gave David a chance to explore his long-standing interest in the medical field—an interest rooted in his family's background in healthcare. When the opportunity to attend CVCC presented itself, David didn't hesitate. "I figured this was the perfect way to dip my toe into the medical field and see if it was the right fit for me," he shared.

That decision proved to be transformative. "I've heard people say they don't use what they learned in high school, but I can confidently say that I've used what I've learned at CVCC," David noted. He credits the program with helping him grow academically and personally. "I became more academic as soon as I started attending CVCC—actually taking my studies seriously."

One of the standout moments of David's time at CVCC was his involvement in Business Professionals of America (BPA). "Participating in BPA was so fun and such a great opportunity. I had the chance to represent myself, my program, and CVCC," he shared. At the BPA Regional competition this past January, David competed in four events and placed in the top ten for all of them—taking 1st place in both Medical Coding and Fundamental Word Processing, 4th in Health Insurance and Medical Billing, and earning a top-ten finish in Basic Office Systems and Procedures. These achievements qualified him for the BPA State competition in Columbus this past March, where he placed 6th in Fundamental Word Processing—securing a spot at the BPA National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida, this month, where he proudly finished 48th.

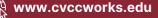
Looking ahead, David plans to attend Cleveland State University (CSU) to major in history, with aspirations of becoming a cultural anthropologist. In recent years, he's discovered a passion for studying human behavior and belief systems. "Getting paid to study cultures and learn about people's behaviors, beliefs, and practices—I can't think of anything better!"

Beyond the classroom, David enjoys researching history and culture and was a member of the Around the World Club at Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School. He also works part-time at Drug Mart, a job he enjoys and plans to continue over the summer. His advice for future CVCC students? "Get ready to be challenged—but it's so worth it. On the days it's hard to find motivation, remember this isn't just school—you're preparing for your career here. Congratulations, David! CVCC is proud of all you've achieved and excited to see what the future holds as you begin your journey at CSU.

Written By: Makayla Robertson, CVCC Media Specialist







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