When Kevyn Augustine got a taste of using computer aided design (CAD) in eighth grade, he loved it. “I decided to become an engineer at that point in my life,” he says. True to his goal, he enrolled at Brown Mackie College—Kansas City in 2007. He finished most of the program before running into financial issues that put an end to his studies.

Kevyn turned his attention elsewhere and enlisted in the Air Force. He served from 2010 to 2012 at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, working as an airborne surveillance technician. “I worked on the AWACS (Airborne Warning And Control System), observing the radar for air traffic and identification,” he says. He achieved the rank of E-3 airman first class before returning to civilian life.

“After serving, I got the motivation I needed to finish school and get a job I love,” says Kevyn. He returned to Brown Mackie College—Kansas City, knowing he would enjoy the small classroom experience. “What I enjoyed most was the ease of access for everything. I could talk to instructors face-to-face or through email,” he says. “We had access to computers and many learning resources at any time. I got hands-on experience throughout the program.”

In 2014, Kevyn graduated from Brown Mackie College—Kansas City, completing an Associate of Applied Science degree in Architectural Design & Drafting Technology. He secured employment as an engineering CAD technician at Selective Site Consultants, Inc., in Overland Park, Kansas. Kevyn works on the design of cellular tower modifications. “I get to design antenna placement, as well as equipment cable configurations,” he says. “This work helps contractors put up and take down antennas on cell towers. I love what I do. I often go to work all day and lose track of time.”

Education gave Kevyn the skills he needed to get the job he always wanted. He is now on track to fulfill his eighth grade aspirations. “I plan to use this degree to move on to higher levels of education. I want to become an engineer, designing or doing analysis work on bridges,” he says.