



ANNA GJEFLE

Advanced Technology Group,
a Cognizant company



Job Title

QA Lead



Hometown

Missoula, MT



Education

Big Sky High School & Willard Alternative High School

What do you do?

I am currently staffed on a Data Migration project as a QA Lead resource. I am also an Aim Coach for 6 of my peers and am active as a committee member for one of ATG's affinity groups, atg+.

What did you do before your career at ATG?

I held 10 years of various customer relations jobs, mostly in the food service industry (7 years in food industry, working front of house, back of house, and supervisor positions). I also hold 3 years experience in working at a local non-profit animal shelter, Animeals, as Kennel Tech as well as Medical Tech.

Why did you choose to pursue a career in technology?

Prior to my introduction to ATG/Cognizant and the Aim Training Program, I had been working a job that brought me no fulfillment or satisfaction at the end of the day. I did not feel challenged or valued, and recognized I was performing a job for a company I saw myself having no future with. I was looking for a major life change, where I would not feel complacent in a job. An ATG employee who provided me with enough insight to recognize a spot in the Aim Training program would be an opportunity I did not want to miss, referred me to the Aim Training. I felt great confidence that pursuing a career in tech would enable me to gain an abundance of new skills, push myself into stepping out of my comfort zone for long term growth, and set me up for success in a high-demand, competitive field.

What advice would you give yourself starting your career?

- Exercise being vulnerable, especially during the AIM Training
- Do not limit your own potential – you are capable of doing far more than you convince yourself of, and ATG/Cognizant provides plenty of room for growth (don't put yourself in a box)
- Ask for help when you need it – your team members want to help you, and will help you, but they can't read minds.
- When things get hard and you begin to doubt yourself, remember that everybody started out new, and things will get better with commitment and persistence.
- Be a team player – this has proven to be critical for project success
- Communication is key – always communicate clearly. When in doubt, over communicate!
- Don't forget to have fun and enjoy the journey!