

WESTERN ILLINOIS WORKS

Serving Adams, Brown, Hancock, Henderson, Knox,
McDonough, Pike, Schuyler, and Warren Counties

Ebony's Career Journey – Finding a Calling in Healthcare

Ebony turned to Western Illinois Works to enroll in the WIOA Youth Program because of the struggles she faced as a single mother, taking care of her father, and with no reliable transportation.

Taking the First Step

She knew she wanted to work in the medical field but wasn't sure in what capacity. She didn't have an extensive employment history but knew she needed to find something to support herself and her daughter.

A work experience position was created for Ebony at the City of Macomb Community Development Office. Job duties included sorting and scanning their backlog of forms and paperwork.

Excelling in Education

Ebony started classes in the Medical Assistant program at Spoon River College in Macomb. She earned very good grades and is currently studying for her state certification for Medical Assistant.

At school and at Ebony's work experience site, she flourished, learning new skills, and made new connections in the community.

Besides Occupational Skills Training and Work-Based Learning, Ebony benefited from the WIOA internship program, which she completed successfully at McDonough District Hospital. She received assistance with transportation and resume preparation.

Self-Sufficiency

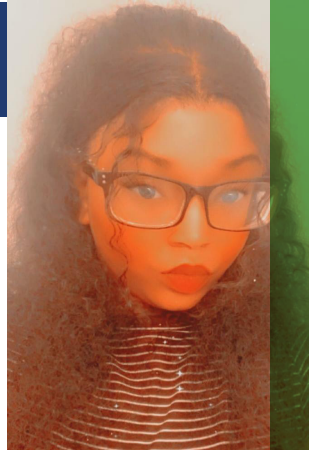
Ebony was hired full-time by Pella Corporation in Macomb. She is still seeking a job opportunity within the medical field. Her case manager at the McDonough County Office in Macomb was essential in helping Ebony with these services during the past few years.

As in so many cases, when the odds are stacked against someone, they must reach down and find the grit and determination to keep on going, and that is just what Ebony did during her time in the WIOA program.

Finding Success

Ebony was especially persistent when she was juggling school, a job, a child, and taking care of relatives who were ill. It is a true testament to her steadfastness.

Ebony found the confidence she didn't even know she possessed.



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“Ebony blossomed from a shy young woman into a confident, intelligent, empathetic person in just a few years.”

Learn More:
www.WorkforceCanHelp.com

