

Southwest Louisiana **WORKFORCE** Scholarship Program

Scholarship Recipient Success Stories

Challenge	Support Services	Outcome
Unemployed with a special needs child. Already enrolled at SOWELA, but no funding available for remaining semesters.	The scholarship covered summer and fall tuition, enabling the recipient to complete the PTEC program.	Graduated in December 2015. Currently completing testing and interviews to secure a job in support of area industry.
Unemployed.	Inquired about expungement, computer literacy and transportation needs. Career counselor liaised with SWLA Law Center, Literacy Council and Calcasieu Police Jury Human Services Department. Scholarship recipient needs met.	Graduated in Heavy Equipment from ABC school in December 2015. Enrolled in Mobile Crane for spring 2016. Secured employment at Well Hung Metal.
Unemployed, hearing disability and not computer literate. Unknowingly had five recorded absences in October due to improper sign-in; was at risk of being dropped.	Received a referral to Louisiana Rehabilitation Services from the Business & Career Solutions Center. Provided computer literacy training from Literacy Council. Career counselor worked with recipient and ABC school to make sure attendance was verified. Regular communication with mentor was central to success.	Completed accelerated welding program in December 2015. Currently attending ABC school to finish additional levels to receive combo welder certificate. Received hearing aids.
Financially challenged.	Inquired about food and housing assistance. Career counselor liaised with local food bank, Abraham's Tent and Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Human Services Department. Scholarship recipient needs met.	Graduated with a degree in process technology from SOWELA in May 2016. Secured an internship at Phillips 66. Working with career counselor and the Business and Career Solutions Center to secure a full-time position.
In need of evening employment to support family while in school. No health insurance. Degree in Sociology but working as a scaffold builder.	Completed one-on-one sessions with career counselor, developed job search strategy and interview and resume-writing skills. Also received assistance with health insurance information.	Completed SOWELA's 15-week structural welding course and receive certification. Received multiple job offers but ultimately landed with CB&I. After a few months of work, he was promoted and is currently serving as a mentor in the program for current scholarship recipients.