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Florida Trends
Your Future After High School in Florida

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real jobs
real young people

Want to know about the jobs real Florida students get after graduation? Getting a good education, whether you decide to work in the field you studied or not, can lead to all kinds of great careers. Here are four young people who pursued more education after high school and landed jobs they enjoy.

Tiffany Brown, 21
Graduate Nurse
Health First Palm Bay Community Hospital
Palm Bay
Graduate, Keiser University
A.S. Nursing

"While at Keiser University, I did my practicum clinicals at Health First Palm Bay Community Hospital. The staff was so helpful and I knew from the start that it was definitely the place where I wanted to work. I was hired as a graduate nurse in the progressive-care unit."

Tamara Chaplin, 22
Student Services Professional
Lake-Sumter Community College
Graduate, Lake-Sumter Community College
A.A. Elementary Education
Senior, University of Central Florida
Orlando
Majoring in Elementary Education, expected graduation in May 2009

"I'm working at Lake-Sumter Community College in the student services office to support myself while I'm finishing up at the University of Central Florida. I started college at LSCC and it was a great place for me to begin. I earned my A.A. in elementary education and am one of the first students who were able to benefit from UCF's DirectConnect program. As a student at UCF, I have earned a 4.0 GPA and serve on the President's Leadership Council. After completing my B.S. in elementary education, I hope to pursue my Master's in either higher education or social work."

Note: DirectConnect allows all students and alumni of Brevard, Lake-Sumter, Seminole and Valencia Community Colleges to have guaranteed admission to UCF.

Tremayne Stamper, 22
Software Design Engineer
Hewlett Packard
Houston, TX
Graduate, Florida A & M University
B.S. Computer Engineering

"I work on different software applications, whether it is enhancing them or creating a new application structure. My technical skills are challenged daily. In the next five years, I plan to receive my Master's degree in computer engineering while moving up in my department."

Francisco Villalta, 24
Assistant Produce Manager
Publix Super Markets Inc.
Orlando
Graduate, Valencia Community College
A.A. Architecture

"I came to Publix for a summer job in high school and decided to stay because it's a really great place to work and offers good pay and benefits. Publix has given me the tools to be successful and opportunities to learn and grow. My store manager really encouraged me, so I applied for the management program. Now, I'm the assistant produce manager in my store. Even though I enjoyed studying architecture, I definitely want to stay with Publix. I'm earning more money than my friends."

Job Shadowing

Job shadowing allows you to see first-hand what a typical day is like in the career you're considering. To shadow someone, find businesses in your city that match your career interests. Call a business to find out if it has a job shadowing program. Even if it doesn't have a formal program, the management may still be willing to let you visit for the day.