LEARN & EARN









Jobs For Michigan's Graduates and MiCareer Quest East

The Shiawassee RESD's WIOA program is excited to be collaborating with the Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG) program this school year. JMG expands opportunities for students and helps them build the skills needed for career success. The program offers a variety of supports, including career readiness training, student-led leadership development, life skills training, community service, post-secondary exploration, and paid work experiences.

This fall, JMG students have been actively engaged in a variety of experiences designed to help them explore various post-secondary education and career options. One highlight was attending MiCareer Quest East at the Dort Event Center in Flint. Hosted by GST MichiganWorks!, this large scale event included more than 2,100 students from 52 school districts



across the region. Students explored over 100 high-demand occupations in fields such as health sciences, advanced manufacturing/STEM, construction, information technology, automotive, skilled trades, and agriculture. There were hands-on activities for students to engage with, and they interacted with industry professionals to learn about different careers. Our JMG students had a great experience, and their feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

Shiawassee Regional Education Service District

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JOBS for MICHIGAN'S GRADUATES
powered by youth solutions

Student Success Story:

Marissa

Growing Through Experience and Finding Her Path

When Marissa joined the WIOA Youth Employment Program, she hoped it would help her break out of her shell. She wanted to try working for the first time and see what having a real job felt like. What she discovered was much more than a summer job—she found confidence, purpose, and a clear direction for her future.

The summer before her junior year, Marissa was placed at TIP'n POINT Grocery Store in New Lothrop. She spent her time cleaning, helping around the store, and learning to interact comfortably with customers and coworkers.

Reminders

Make sure your worksite supervisors know you are not working over Christmas Break. Shiawassee County Schools are closed from December 22nd- January 2nd.

If there is a snow day, you must call your worksite supervisor and let them know you won't be at work.

Happy HOLIDAYS

"At TIP'n POINT I got comfortable talking with people and really loved working there," she shared. This first step into the workforce gave her a supportive environment where she could grow—and it worked.

By the summer before her senior year, Marissa was ready for something new. She had a growing interest in healthcare and wanted hands-on experience in the field. Through WIOA, she was placed in the Activities Department at Durand Senior Care & Rehab Center.

There, she led activities like Bingo and coffee hour, spent time with residents, and observed other departments throughout the nursing home. "I loved working with the residents," she said. She also had the chance to shadow therapy services—an experience that would later shape her college major.

During her senior year, Marissa enrolled in the Shiawassee RESD's Health Science CTE program, where she studied medical terminology, anatomy, and participated in clinical rotations at Memorial Healthcare. Exploring various areas of the hospital deepened her interest in a therapy-related career and strengthened her confidence academically and professionally.

Looking back, Marissa rates her WIOA experience a 10 out of 10. The program helped her:

- Improve her communication skills
- Gain confidence in new environments

Marissa's advice to other students considering WIOA: "Try it out and see where it leads you. You might find out what career you like. It did that for me."



"It gave me the confidence to go out and get a job on my own," she said.

Today, Marissa is attending Mott Community College, working toward becoming a Physical Therapist Assistant. She is also employed full-time as a caregiver with Veterans Affairs, where she is gaining hands-on experiences that support her career goals. Marissa is proud of how far she has come. She has built confidence, knows what she wants, and is pursuing her dream career.

GST MICHIGAN WORKS! GENESEE SHIAWASSEE THUMB

This program is in partnership with GST Michigan Works! Workforce Development Board and the Workforce Development Agency, State of Michigan. Supported by the State of Michigan Equal Opportunity Employer Program. Michigan Relay Center: 711 Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.