



TRIANGLE TECH GRADUATE UPDATES

Check out our graduates and their success.

Kristopher Branch- October 2016 Welding Graduate

Graduating from Triangle Tech was a huge accomplishment for welding student, Kris Branch. During his 16 months of training, Kris would commute over an hour each day to attend classes. His hard work didn't stop at the end of the school day; instead Kris would go directly to work to help support his family. Kris knew he wanted to do some type of pipe welding or fabricating when he graduated. "I truly enjoyed learning pipe welding because it was such a challenge for me. I wanted to learn more and was determined to get better". After graduating, Kris secured a position with Newport News Shipbuilding. Currently, he has been moved to the pipe welding portion of the school! The shipyard provides all of their employees enrolled in the school the opportunity to learn and perfect welds. He will be TIG pipe welding on several types of metal like carbon steel, stainless steel and copper. Kris hopes to one day become a nuclear welder at the shipyard. His hope is to continue to support his family and improve himself. "I truly believe I hit the ground running, and honestly I would not have been able to do what I have been doing and accomplish this much without the help of Triangle Tech. There are great things in the future for me and my family".

Adam Meyers- February 2017 RHVAC Graduate

I attended Triangle Tech because I wanted to better myself. After working at the same job for 14 years, knowing I had no chance of advancing and bettering myself, I figured it was time to do something about it. I chose the RHVAC program because I have always enjoyed working with my hands and learning how things work. Everything about the RHVAC field is interesting to me. Getting into the groove of school again was a challenge. Being out for 10 years and in the workforce, it was different to get back into going to school, but was worth it. Being able to put to use the hands-on experience I learned in the theory classes was what I liked most about Triangle Tech. I enjoyed the residential and commercial refrigeration classes, the heating and sheet metal classes and

also the direct digital controls class. The achievement I hoped to gain was the knowledge and some experience, so that when I graduated I would be able to find a career in the RHVAC field and be able to better myself personally and professionally. My current position is a Service Technician with FIT Optimized Solutions in Windber, PA. I work with commercial businesses, schools, and hospitals with RHVAC controls.

"I would not have been able to do what I have been doing and accomplish this much without the help of Triangle Tech."

Mendel Lester- June 2016 Carpentry Graduate

Before I came to Triangle Tech I didn't really know what I wanted to do. I had just completed a degree in religious studies and was very successful academically. But in my heart, I felt I wanted to work with my head and my hands. I love the mental challenge of figuring out how to make something and then actually making it. It was fun to go from the original idea to the finished product. After noticing my passion for working with my hands, my father suggested I visit a local trade school. The moment I walked into the carpentry lab at Triangle Tech, and saw the full-scale frame of a house being built, I knew this was exactly what I wanted to do. I had very little formal background in construction and carpentry, but at Triangle Tech, they started at the very beginning and went through every step of the process. Whether it was the name and use of each tool, the math needed in construction, or the correct body position while using a saw, the teachers made sure we knew all the basics before moving on. I was appreciative of the fact that the teachers were always patient with me and took the time to explain and show me how to do things right. Of course making stuff is always fun, but through it all we learned the theory behind each project, as well as the practical tech-

TRIANGLE TECH GRADUATE UPDATES

Check out our graduates and their success.



niques involved in the process. When a product was finished, we all felt proud of what we made, either by ourselves or with our classmates. I learned a lot at Triangle Tech that was on the curriculum, but I also learned other valuable skills that were not on the syllabus such as how to work with others in a team, how to ask for help, and how to pace myself on a physically demanding job. While at Triangle Tech, I was learning and growing each day, but I didn't realize exactly how much I had learned until I got my first job and actually put my skills to practice. Just three days after graduating from Triangle Tech, I landed a good job with a local company that builds high-end, custom-made cabinetry and furniture. In my job as an assistant carpenter, I am using all the skills I learned at Triangle Tech. While some of the machines were different from the ones I used at Triangle Tech, the principles were the same, and I was able to begin the job with confidence. Later on we went on job sites to demolish old cabinets and install the new ones we had just been working on. This was an amazing feeling of accomplishment. Now all my skills and hard work were actually being put to use in the real world in someone's house! This is quite rewarding, not only financially, but emotionally. Not only do I help fashion the wood into beautiful cabinets, but I also help them become functional parts of someone's life. Every day at work, I learn something new. There are always new techniques to learn, new projects to create and new places to remodel. I love this kind of work and look forward to the career options ahead. I will always be grateful to Triangle Tech, and all of the talented and caring teachers who taught me everything I needed to know to begin a career in construction. I don't know where my career will take me, but I do plan to build on that successful training I gained at Triangle Tech and hope to always do Triangle Tech proud.

Jesse Mathewson- October 2016 CADD Graduate

Jesse made the decision to attend Triangle Tech after seeing his brother graduate from Triangle Tech's CADD Technology program. He always had a strong interest from an early age in

building, drawing and design. During school, Jesse enjoyed working on group projects and having the chance to exchange ideas while keeping the projects on task. Jesse had a goal of wanting to secure a leadership position, and was able to achieve that goal following graduation from Triangle Tech. Jesse was hired as a Drafting Project Manager with Erie Weld Products, Inc., located in Erie, PA. Erie Weld Products is a custom metal fabrication shop specializing in the design, fabrication, and installation of specialty products and projects. In his role, he is hands-on with tackling multiple projects and working with his peers in the process to complete the projects. Jesse's advice to new students is that "Hard work will lead to achievement".

Jason Parent- June 2017 Electrical Graduate

I decided to attend Triangle Tech because I wanted to further my education. The Maintenance Electricity program was a good fit for me. I had two years of prior electrical training from attending a vocational school. I wanted to build on the skills I had and also earn a degree in a trade that I enjoy. I knew early on in my life that I wanted to be an electrician. It's important to use what you learn at school and put it to use in the field. I enjoy talking to customers and helping them with their issues. I look at what I've accomplished and how everything brought me to this point. My job search for securing an electrical position was very positive. The Career Advisor at Triangle Tech presented a job opening in the classroom with West Pharmaceutical Services. She explained that if anyone was interested they needed to apply online. So, I didn't waste any time. I applied for the position of Maintenance Technician. It wasn't long before I received a call to arrange an interview and now I'm hired! I will start my new position after graduation. I'm happy to say that I'll be employed with a global company. Triangle Tech has changed my life by giving me the ability to apply myself, further my education and focus on a career that I intend to have for the rest of my life.