

Dre'Vaughn Newson

Following in Dad's Foot Steps

Dre'Vaughn Newson was 18 years old when he visited the Sikeston Job Center and enrolled in the SkillUP program. Dre'Vaughn had a career pathway that he wanted to pursue. He wanted to follow in his father's foot steps and become an over-the-road truck driver. However, when researching the occupation, Dre'Vaughn discovered that due to his age he would not be able to drive across state lines. He did not let this stop him from moving forward with his plan. Dre'Vaughn continue to search for conditional pre-hire letters and found the Junior Hogan program with Hogan Transportation.

Dre'Vaughn started training on February 10, 2020 at MTC Truck Driver Training in Scott City. Dre'Vaughn maintained a grade point average of 96.7% in the class room and 99% during hands-on training. He was scheduled to take his CDL test on March 23, 2020, but was unable to complete the testing that day due to the COVID-19 shutdown. The school reopened and Dre'Vaughn was able to start his training again on May 16, 2020 and he completed training on July 16, 2020 when he passed the road test portion for his CDL.

Dre'Vaughn entered straight into employment with Hogan Transportation. He delivers inventory to Dollar General Stores in Missouri. He will be eligible for full benefits once he passes his probationary period.

The SkillUP program is Missouri's employment and training program for Food Stamp (SNAP) recipients. The program is funded through the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. The program is also funded through the Administration for Children and Families, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant.