

Misty Wills

High School Graduate with a Goal

Misty was referred SkillUP by her high school counselor as she was considered high risk of not graduating high school. Misty visited the Cape Girardeau Job Center and enrolled in SkillUP in October 2019 with Southeast Workforce Development Board. Misty's first goal was to graduate high school, which she accomplished on May 8, 2020.

Having no work experience and lacking confidence, Misty's case manager, Sherri Bowling, felt that Misty was a great candidate for a work experience program. Misty's long term goal was to be a veterinarian technician. Due to liability issues, she was not able to do work experience in a veterinarian's office. Sherri contacted a local grocery store and was able to secure a work experience placement for Misty.

Misty continues in her employment at the grocery store and is gaining soft skills as well as job skills. Due to COVID, Misty decided to wait until the spring semester to enroll at Southeastern Missouri State University to continue her journey to become a veterinarian technician. She will be the first generation in her family to attend college.



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.

