

## **Samantha Pikey Nurse with a Bright Future**

After relocating from St. Louis to New Madrid, Samantha worked for a month at a local restaurant before she was laid off. On September 30, 2019, feeling like she was at the “end of her rope”, Samantha went to the Sikeston Job Center for help. She had heard about SkillUP through social media and wanted to know more about the program. During the initial assessment, Latisha Ruby, her case manager, learned that Samantha held a LPN license, however, her license was suspended due to trouble in her past. Samantha was still very interested in employment in the medical field.

Samantha enrolled in SkillUP that same day. With the help of her case manager, Samantha contacted the Missouri Board of Nursing to begin the process of having her LPN license reinstated. SkillUP was able to assist Samantha with the cost of her background check and renewal fees. Samantha’s LPN license renewal was granted on March 6, 2020. She is currently employed at Missouri Delta Medical Center in Sikeston as a LPN in the urology department at a wage sufficient to support her family. Samantha would like to further her education and obtain her RN degree.



*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.*