



CLEVELAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

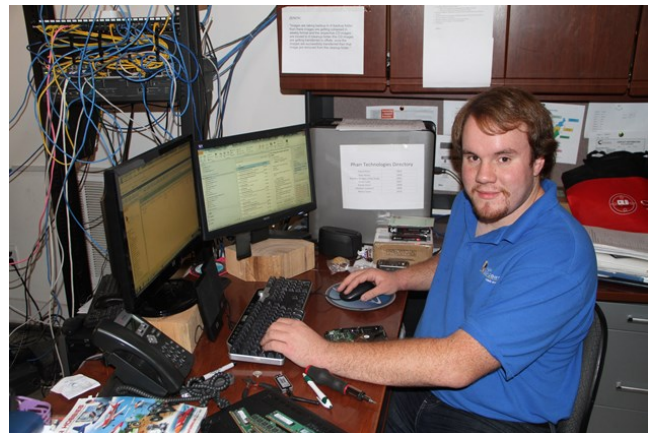
SUCCESS
STORY

Brandon Bridges, AAS, Networking Technology and Information Systems Security Technology and Cisco Academy

Brandon Bridges didn't waste any time after graduating from Burns High School to enroll at CCC and continue his education. Quite simply he chose CCC because it was affordable, offered a flexible schedule, and most importantly offered degrees in computer security and networking. Bridges dove right into the Cisco Academy and says the Academy was beneficial in a variety of ways.

"Cisco was helpful in teaching me and other students about basic and advanced networking. Once I got into the workforce my experience in the Academy proved to be even more beneficial. I know without the knowledge I learned in classes from handling various networking details, including making and running cables and dealing with different IP addresses I would not have been prepared in the working environment. These skills are expected prior knowledge before entering almost any IT related field."

As a student, Bridges was also fortunate to work as an intern at Pharr Technologies where he could use his classroom skills in a real-world setting. He says one of the things he enjoyed most about his instructors at CCC was the fact they all have extensive experience in the IT field outside of the campus, plus they build strong relationships with their students in order to see them succeed. "Without experiencing the IT instructors, there is really no way to relay how willing and helpful they were to me and to all of the students. It was an ideal learning atmosphere," Bridges adds. "Charles Plyler, Steve Putnam, Jonathan Davis, and Chance Witherspoon, all deserve recognition for their commitment to student success."



Following graduation, Bridges' internship at Pharr turned into a full time position as Help Desk Administrator. Today, he works as a Help Desk Analyst at Oldcastle Materials. A work day for Bridges includes: fielding support calls, assisting users with problems remotely, monitoring and maintaining critical backups, and repairing hardware problems. "CCC provided me with knowledge and preparation for such tasks by providing access to classes that specifically addressed how to handle these problems," Bridges says. "My educational experience at the college is still proving to be a success. I am working in a field I love and they prepared me for it."