



Ronald McCoy

Biography



My name is Ronald McCoy, and I reside at Bruno, WV. I am 43 years of age, happily married, and have 2 children, ages 24 and 15. I would never dream that becoming unemployed would take my life in such a different direction.

Literally speaking, most of us know that Southern Appalachia has been notorious for the coal mining industry. Coal miners have blasted and dug coal, the largest resource, throughout the rugged mountains of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama for many generations. I was one of those miners but was now considered unemployed, after 22 years of service. However, my last 12 years, I was employed as a chief electrician, earning a six figure salary. I thought working in the mining industry would be my permanent career until I would reach retirement. Now, what was I going to do? I needed another skill set to help me find a decent paying job.

Thinking on how to remedy my situation, my mind wandered back to such a proud moment, when my daughter graduated from the Nursing program at Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College. And, her options for employment in the nursing field were plenteous. Now, even more, thoughts started running through my head. I knew nurses, especially, registered male nurses were in great demand. So, what was I waiting for?

So, after much consideration throughout the day, I felt I had mastered the determination and a made up mind that the Nursing program at Southern was my answer to most of my questions. As a registered nurse, I would be a healthcare professional that would empower me to find employment in my hometown, or if I decided to relocate, that would be no problem either. I could further my education to open more doors, better opportunities and more stability, financially speaking.

May I continue to say? That, I scored a decent score above the norm of 75% on the HESIA2 Exam, applied to the nursing program, and was accepted. Personally speaking, I find that Southern has the best Nursing program in the state and a friendly and professional Student Services: student services specialists, Financial Aid Department, and the TANF program, all of which I am so thankful for. They work together to make an effective team, and to provide the best quality services for me and other students to receive the education, so deserved. While at Southern, I have received assistance with course fees, books, ATI fees, uniforms, etc., by being a participant in the TANF program and with Southern's Financial Aid Department, qualifying for HEAPS to pay for summer tuition. Thank you for making my dream possible!

In conclusion, I plan to graduate in 2019 from the Nursing and in the HealthCare Professional with Associates in Applied Science. My plan is to start working in the emergency room or



intensive care unit, and to further my education with Marshall University or West Virginia University to obtain my BSN. And, in the near future, I want to pursue my nurse practitioner.