

Rikita Brown of Clarke County graduated from Quitman High School with High Honors. In hopes of doing something positive with her summer and gaining experience for the “real world,” Ms. Brown joined the Arbor Education & Training program. As part of the program, Rikita was required to attend a job educational class that gave her the knowledge of how to successfully find a job and keep it. After finishing the class, she went to Meridian Community College to take the Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) Test.

The Career Readiness Certificate Test has three subjects: Locating Information, Applied Mathematics and Reading for Information. There are three certificate levels that can be earned: Bronze, Silver and Gold. The Bronze Level proves that the person has core employability skills for about 30% of the jobs and on the Gold Level, 90% of jobs. On the test, Ms. Brown scored a level high enough to allow her to earn a Silver Certificate. The Silver Level classifies her as having core employability skills for approximately 65% of the jobs.

Thanks to her job coach, Ms. Latricia Temple, Ms. Brown was placed at Big Lots in Meridian. Ms. Brown says she is very thankful for her job coach and everything she has done to help her make her life a success. She also stated that she is grateful that she was able to be a part of the program and for the knowledge and job skills she has gained. Ms. Brown currently attends Meridian Community College as a nursing major, with hopes of becoming a Pediatric Nurse.

