

Success Stories



How the Work Program **works**
for Blackburn Graduates

Blackburn COLLEGE
WORK PROGRAM

Work Program Benefits

Prospective Blackburn students sometimes think that the largest benefit of the Work Program is a significant reduction in tuition.

Upperclassmen and graduates often have a different perspective. Teamwork, camaraderie, workplace learning, personal growth and community involvement top their lists of Work Program advantages.

This is much more than work-study. It's a chance to really grow, and sharpen a myriad of skills – like time management, collaboration and leadership – all extremely valuable qualities in today's tough job market.

Here are just a few stories of recent Blackburn graduates. You'll see what they brought to the work program and more importantly, what they've taken away.

Time Management

Amy Turner '07

Biochemistry major. Now a student at the School of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery, Des Moines University.

"The work program helped me the most with time management. Also, I am able to apply the skills I gained working in the chemistry labs in some of my classes now. Very helpful!"



Work Program Experience

Freshman: Campus Services (Janitorial), Campus Svcs. Crew Head

Sophomore: Chemistry Faculty Assistant

Junior: Chemistry Faculty Assistant

Senior: Cooperative Work Study, Prairie Farms Dairy Lab Assistant

Leadership

Aubrey Cunningham '07



Political science major. Now the Ohio Operations Director for the Obama Presidential Campaign.

"I am constantly using my communication skills, ability to work with diverse groups of people, organizational skills, mediation skills and leadership training in my everyday job tasks. The Work Program was a huge help to me in not only securing a job, but being successful in this career path."

Work Program Experience

Freshman: Public Relations Assistant

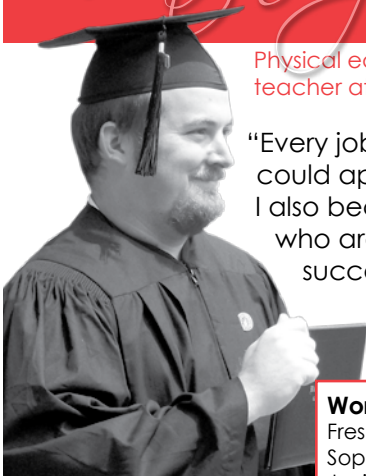
Sophomore: Public Relations Asst./Assistant Department Manager

Junior: Administrative Services Department Manager

Senior: Work Program General Manager

Relationships

Chase Conlin '08



Physical education major. Now a physical education teacher at Aldridge Elementary School.

"Every job I had taught me something I could apply to an education standpoint. I also became good friends with people who are supportive in my search for success. The Work Program magnified my strengths and enabled me to demonstrate those skills to others."

Work Program Experience

Freshman: Campus Services (Janitorial) Worker

Sophomore: Campus Services (Janitorial) Worker

Junior: Residence Hall Assistant

Senior: Residence Hall Director/Student Teacher

Personal Growth

Katie Ashcraft '08

History major. Now an admissions counselor for MacMurray College.

"I think the Work Program is very helpful. I worked in the Admissions Office at Blackburn, and now I am the Chicago area recruiter for MacMurray College."



Work Program Experience

Freshman: Campus Services (Janitorial) Worker/
Residence Hall Assistant

Sophomore: Admissions Campus Visits Coordinator

Junior: Admissions Processing Assistant

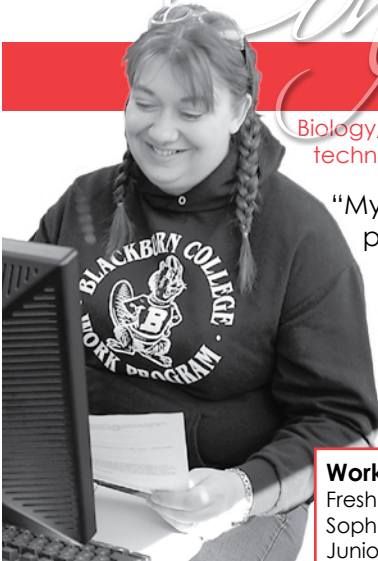
Senior: Admissions Processing Assistant

Confidence

Melinda Barber '08

Biology/chemistry major. Now a QC laboratory technician for Afton Chemical.

"My Work Program experience prepared me for working in a team environment as well as giving me the confidence to assert myself to show others the skills I learned both in the classroom and in my position as a chemistry faculty assistant."



Work Program Experience

Freshman: President's Office Assistant

Sophomore: Chemistry Faculty Assistant

Junior: Chemistry Faculty Assistant

Senior: Chemistry Faculty Assistant

Service

Kiaundra Smith '06

Secondary education math major. Now a high school teacher in East St. Louis, MO.

"The time I spent in food service taught me patience, time management and leadership, and I was able to use my skills in service to others. The work I did in the math department influenced my acceptance to graduate school. I feel the Work Program is essential to building responsibility, appreciation and leadership."



Work Program Experience

Freshman: Food Services Worker

Sophomore: Food Services Crew Head

Junior: Math Faculty Assistant/Tutor

Senior: Math Faculty Assistant/Tutor, Student Teaching

Teamwork

Richard Mordini '08

Environmental biology major. Now an environmental specialist for Trileaf Corporation.

"I have to deal with copy machines, computers, cameras, microfiche machines, and work in small teams. Blackburn's Work Program really helped prepare me for my current position. The confidence that I gained through the work program was also a huge help."



Work Program Experience

Freshman: Library Audio Visual Lab

Sophomore: Library Audio Visual Lab

Junior: Library Audio Visual Lab

Senior: Library Audio Visual Lab

Persistence

Jillian Stambaugh '08

British & American literature and communications major.
Now a staff writer for Eagle Publications/Gatehouse Media.

"The Work Program gave me a great sense of time management, which is needed in my field of work with all the deadlines we have to make. It also gave me experience working with others, not to mention a strong desire to have the workplace be a positive and engaging atmosphere. Thanks to the Work Program I was able to step into my job with dedication and a will to succeed. I had a great time working my way up the Work Program ranks, and I know my experience at Blackburn will continue to help me succeed. In all honesty, thank you, Blackburn."



Work Program Experience

Freshman: Food Service Catering Crew

Sophomore: Writing Center Assistant

Junior: Writing Center Assistant/

Academic Services Department Assistant Manager

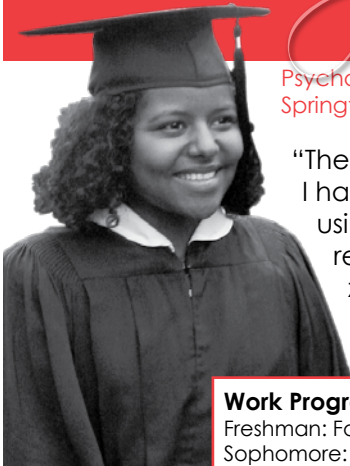
Senior: Academic Services Department Manager

Responsibility

Adhanet Zereabruk '06

Psychology major. Now at the University of Illinois - Springfield in Human Development Counseling.

"The Work Program was very beneficial; I have learned all the skills that I am using right now. It helped me to be responsible and get out of my comfort zone, which was what I needed to be helpful to other people."



Work Program Experience

Freshman: Food Services Worker

Sophomore: Intercultural Services Assistant

Junior: Technology Services Lab Assistant

Senior: Counseling Office, Peer Counselor

Accountability

Shawn Farris '08

Computer science/information management major.
Now an applications specialist for Levi, Ray & Shoup.

"The Work Program was a tremendous asset to help me develop a level of professionalism and depth of skills that I can demonstrate in my current job."

Work Program Experience

Freshman: Community Services -

Carlinville School District Network Technician

Sophomore: Technology Services Dept. Manager

Junior: Technology Services Department Manager

Senior: Work Program General Manager



Our Mission



The mission of the Blackburn College student-managed Work Program is to meet the labor needs of the campus community, and to help better prepare students for a successful transition to life, work and career after college by:

- Involving students to the maximum extent feasible in the provision of all goods and services needed and/or provided by the college.
- Reducing the cost of a four-year, private college education through student "self-help."
- Providing "hands-on" work, service, and leadership learning opportunities in addition to the classroom.
- Providing an added dimension of community involvement and student character development emphasizing a strong work ethic, responsibility and accountability.

Blackburn COLLEGE **WORK PROGRAM**

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