

Where students are given the opportunity to prove they

“WILL WORK FOR COLLEGE”

#NTCCWORKS

Last summer, as we were wrapping up the 2015 Work Scholarship Program, we had a couple of students stand up and tell us about their experience. One student volunteered to speak. Here is his story.....

*“I learned to use a weed-eater.....that might not seem like much to you. But, I grew up with my mom and two little sisters. There never was a dad in the picture. My mom worked all the time so we could survive. We moved from one apartment to another. We lived in different housing projects my whole life. We never even had a yard of our own. Last spring a friend of mine told me about this program and said I should look into it. Because of all the moving around we had done, I barely made it through high school. College....no one in my family had ever gone to college. Plus, how could I even afford it! The adult who told me about the program pushed until I agreed to apply. Even when I got accepted, I was still hesitant....I really felt like I was about to be around a bunch of people that would judge me for one thing or another, a crowd that I would not fit into.....to be honest I was scared. My job assignment was Plant Services. I did not even know what that meant. I found out the first day that it meant lawn maintenance for me! I was okay with that. They had me, mowing, weed-eating, picking up trash, painting, digging, planting, etc. In addition to learning to work, we also had to attend a class where we learned everything from writing a resume to interviewing skills and even manners. We also had a class on learning to write a check....many people take that for granted.....not me. Being in the program exposed me to the college on a daily basis. This made me feel so much more comfortable that I went ahead and enrolled in another class during summer two. I also enrolled fulltime for the fall. So, what did I get out of this?...Being in The Work Scholarship Program has helped me **earn my education**. I had never been exposed to these learning opportunities before. I didn't have anyone who spent time with me teaching me how to do the little things....What did I get out of this? Not only did I fit in, I learned to use a weed-eater!”*