

# Sampson Youth Doubles his Pay by Earning a CDL

*Fall 2012*

William Powell was a 20-year old high school graduate when he enrolled in the Harnett Sampson Youth Program. With his limited education and job history, William realized that he had no marketable skills outside of agricultural employment and that he needed specialized training in order to reach his career goals. WIA helped put his goal of becoming a Certified Licensed Truck Driver within reach by providing him with the means necessary to obtain the training he desired.

Under the guidance of the WIA youth program, William enrolled in Sampson Community College's CDL program and immediately became one of the top students in his class. The strengths and skills he possessed was evident as he graduated with a number two ranking amongst his peers. Immediately following graduation, William began driving trucks for C.A. Horne's Farm in Autryville, NC and was earning \$9.00 an hour.

Within three months time, William obtained employment with Miller's Recycling, a position that allotted him the opportunity to earn an average of \$25 an hour, more than twice the amount of his original wages. His passion for truck driving continues to increase as he is now making future plans to purchase his own truck and eventually start his own business.

William attributes his strong desire and solid work ethic towards his success in truck driving. His next goal of purchasing a truck and starting his own trucking business indicates his continuing desire to improve and build on his assets. It also shows that he is unwilling to allow complacency to enter his mind. With his strong desire to succeed, and his willingness to work hard, his goal of owning his own trucking company will definitely become a reality.