

Chatham County WIA Participant Lands Teaching Position at UNCG

Fall 2014

Mauri Patterson has always had a desire to teach and learn from others. As a child, she became acquainted with the Spanish language and made it one of her lifelong goals to speak and communicate fluently. Mauri also possessed a strong desire to teach young children in a way that would enhance their educational growth and development, and thanks to her hard work, determination, and some needed assistance from WIA, she is now living her dream.

Mauri comes from a single parent household and could not afford to pay for tuition for her final two semesters of study at the University of North Carolina Greensboro (UNCG). She applied to the WIA Adult Program in Chatham County, and received assistance with tuition, books and fees, which allowed her to focus her time and energy on completing her academics and eventually allow her to graduate with honors.

While attending UNCG, Mauri studied Human Development Family Studies and minored in Spanish. As a part of her course work in Child Development, she studied abroad in Costa Rica and gained insightful knowledge about the children of that county and their native language. For Mauri, studying abroad was a dream come true.

“WIA has rewarded me with an educational experience that prompted me to pursue my educational and training goals even further,” Mauri stated. “The program allowed me to complete internships on the UNCG campus and at three different childcare facilities. I was even hired as a full time lead teacher with UNCG. I am so grateful.”

