

February 2014

Volume I, Issue 26

# Calcasieu Workforce Gazette

Calcasieu Workforce Center Youth



## Most-desired college degrees



It's not easy being a college graduate these days. Embarking on your first job search after college is scary no matter what, let alone doing so during a bad economy when job seekers with 10 years of experience can't find employment.

However, the job outlook for today's college graduates isn't as grim as one might think. So what does it take for a college graduate to get a job? The right degree, for starters. According to the NACE Job Outlook 2011 survey, here are some of the most in-demand majors at the bachelor's degree level.



### Upcoming Community Events:

#### Mardi Gras Merchants' Parade

February 28, 2014  
7:00 PM  
Downtown/Midtown  
Lake Charles  
Ryan Street, Lake  
Charles, LA 70601

#### Junior Women's Conference 2014 Open Your Eyes to the Jungle of Life#The Journey Starts Here!

March 22, 2014  
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM  
McNeese State University  
4205 Ryan St., Lake  
Charles, LA 70605  
\$20.00

#### Annual Youth Summit/Job Fair

April 16, 2014  
8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  
Lake Charles Civic center  
900 Lakeshore Dr., Lake  
Charles, LA 70601



#### **Accounting**

Good with numbers? You're in luck; accounting tops the list of desired majors. Accounting graduates may find opportunities in public accounting, management accounting, government accounting and internal auditing.

Average yearly salary offer: \$49,671

#### **Finance**

With a bachelor's degree in finance, employment possibilities are plentiful and can be found in nearly every industry.

Average yearly salary offer: \$52,351

#### **Electrical Engineering**

Electrical engineering is the second-highest degree in demand (after Master of Business Administration) at the master's degree level. Post-grad degrees include Master of Engineering or Master of Science.

Average yearly salary offer: \$61,021

#### **Computer Science**

More than 56 percent of computer science majors in the class of 2011 who have applied for a job have already received an offer NACE reports.

Average yearly salary offer: \$63,402

#### **Mechanical Engineering**

Graduates with mechanical engineering degrees can find jobs in a variety of industries and fields, including manufacturing, automotive design and robotics.

Average yearly salary offer: \$60,345

#### **Business Administration**

Business administration is one of the most wide-ranging undergrad majors, preparing students for such jobs as compensation and benefits managers, marketing consultants or financial analysts.

Average yearly salary offer: \$44,825

#### **Information\Sciences\System**

Job opportunities abound at software publishing firms, data processing and hosting companies, consulting services and health-care organizations.

Average yearly salary offer: \$57,499

#### **Computer Engineering**

Typical jobs may include designing, constructing or operating computer systems.

Average yearly salary offer: \$64,499

Don't forget to get some experience Even if you graduate with an in-demand degree, you may still come up short without any real-world experience on your resume. Having an internship, or several, on your resume can help you stand out from the rest of the college grad applicants. Plus, it may even get you a higher starting salary. In fact, a study published by Rutgers, found that recent graduates with a previous internship receive \$6,680 more in median salary than graduates who didn't have such experience.

So if you are nearing college graduation or just got your diploma, take note. Having a desired degree may make you attractive to a potential employer, but make sure you have the soft skills and real-life experience to back it up.

By: Debra Auerbach

# Participant of the Month!



## Business & Career Solutions Center

Calcasieu Workforce Center Youth Department

2424 3rd Street

Lake Charles, LA 70601

Tel: 337-721-4010

Fax: 337-721-4186

This program is sponsored by the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, in conjunction with the Workforce Investment Board, and the Louisiana Workforce Commission and funded by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)



Taylor Manuel III is the ideal role model for his peers in Cameron Parish. Taylor attended classes every day, turned in his paperwork on time, adhered to all WIA policies, exhibited good work ethics, and is a very ambitious individual.

Taylor was initially enrolled in 2011. Upon enrollment he was determined to be a basic skills deficient younger youth, who had poor work history, no health care benefits, victim of Hurricanes Rita and Gustav facing severe barriers to employment and required additional assistance.

After being provided the necessary tools to help increase his Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE) score, he was retested and succeeded in increasing his grade levels which made him no longer "basic skills deficient". He also received Leadership Development, Support Services, and Occupational Skills Training. WIA staff provided Job Readiness (Resume preparation, interview skills, job search assistance) during Taylor's last semester of school.

Taylor successfully earned an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Process Technology at SOWELA Technical Community College.

He has recently been hired by CITGO as an Operator which is a training related occupation.



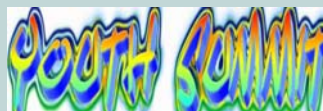
# Congratulations Taylor!



## 2014 Youth Summit / Job Fair

The Calcasieu Workforce Center will host its Annual Youth Summit/Job Fair, Wednesday, April 16, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., at the Lake Charles Civic Center located at 900 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA. The mission for the Calcasieu Workforce Center youth program is to empower and provide youth with the opportunity to develop and achieve goals through education and workforce training while promoting self-sufficiency. Employers are expected to be on hand to interview youth for various job openings.

The purpose of the Youth Summit / Job Fair is to motivate the youth of Southwest Louisiana to overcome life's obstacles and be the best they can be. Our theme this year is "Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Workforce." The Summit will include a selection of appropriate workshops. A boxed lunch will be provided to all attendees. The targeted population is youth, ages 16 thru 24. If you have any questions, please contact one of the Youth Skills Development Specialists Jonnika Boutte or Venus DeJean at 337-721-4010, Ext. 5002, or 5004, you may also contact by E-mail at [jboutte@lwia51.com](mailto:jboutte@lwia51.com) or [vdejean@lwia51.com](mailto:vdejean@lwia51.com). Preregister at [www.cppj.net/youthsummit](http://www.cppj.net/youthsummit). See you there!



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