



I relocated to Oklahoma in August 2013 and worked from home for Audatex, a collision repair software company based out of San Diego, California. On June 30th, 2016, I was laid off from my job of 15 years. The company I worked for decided to close 14 locations and outsource 500 jobs to Mexico that day. It was in shock!

After being laid off, I was having a difficult time locating a job with my particular skill set. I have no formal college degree, so I was at a huge disadvantage. That led me to look into taking advantage of the TAA/TRA benefits through the Workforce office. I was excited at the opportunity of learning a new trade so I could gain employment in a new field. I did some research on all of the trade schools in the OKC area and applied to Francis Tuttle. Francis Tuttle had plenty of room in their Accounting program, so I decided that this would be the best fit for me at the time.

I visited the OKC Workforce office to fill out the necessary paperwork to begin the process. Andrea Derksen and Cristal Parkinson were super helpful and understanding throughout the entire process, which made that difficult time much easier for me. I was excited to discover that I would be able to collect unemployment while attending school full time. This would allow me to finish my program and gain employment much earlier than I anticipated. I began the Accounting program at Francis Tuttle in January 2017 and with much hard work and dedication, completed my Certifications in October of that same year! Francis Tuttle has a very supportive staff (especially, Ms. Hudson!) and great programs for adults trying to re-enter the workforce.

During my last week of school, my instructor encouraged me to attend a job fair in downtown OKC. I met Thad Chance at the Accounting Principals booth and set up an interview with him right away. Thad found a perfect fit that utilized talents from my former employer and my school certifications. I interviewed with the company, Quality Supplements Mfg the following week and got the job!

I have been happily employed with Quality Supplement Mfg as their Project Manager since October 31st, 2017. The company I work for is growing at a very fast pace so I am lucky to have the opportunity to be a part of their awesome team!

I am so thankful for everyone involved in assisting me with reentering the workforce. I couldn't have made it through all of this without everyone's help!

Thank you,

Jennifer Lehtinen
Project Manager