



TYRIQUE JOHNSON



APPRENTICE BACKGROUND

Tyrique is a recent graduate from Thomas Edison High School of Technology in Silver Spring, MD. He was a part of the Construction Technology Pathway Cluster program which promotes and encourages the interest of college and career education related to the construction industry.

How has the program changed your perception of pursuing a career in construction?

It requires a lot of collaboration between different construction trades. I had this perception that a company goes in and installs everything, but with S&D being a subcontractor, we handle one aspect of the oiled machine. It is very practical and you find yourself learning so much on the job.

How would you describe your experience so far?

It has been great, I've learned a lot from my trainer and mentor and how to play a part in moving the job along smoothly. When I was wiring up the sump pump and the startups on the fan power boxes, I felt good about my career choice knowing what I had learn had yielded results.



What was the main factor in deciding to pursue a career in the trade, rather than a 4 years institution?

I took HVAC courses at Edison for two years, specifically my senior and junior years. I wanted to give it a try because my uncle started doing HVAC but unfortunately couldn't finish his training. Because I wasn't in the grade level yet to be able to enter the program, I went to houses in the morning, and learned how to install duck work with my instructor. It was then that I decided that I wanted to pursue the HVAC trade! I also have two of my high school classmates here with me at Shapiro & Duncan.

Why did you choose to pursue your apprenticeship with S&D?

Shapiro & Duncan, particular Jesus Yactayo and Sierra Adams, came to our school senior year. They presented us with the opportunity to pursue our apprenticeship program with the company. I accepted it because I knew HVAC is what I wanted to do as well as S&D being a reputable company in the D.C. area. After my apprenticeship and time at S&D, I see myself as a HVAC Tech in a few years, becoming my own boss and exploring all the endless possibilities.

Any advice for a high school student?

If you like working with your hands, then try to pursuit a construction trade. Take advantage of the opportunities offered by employers, it makes a difference in your learning experience.

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