

## **Amanda Judkins ('16 Medical Assisting)**

### **WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE NSCC?**

I was attracted to Northwest State Community College based on both its academic reputation as well as knowing several others that I knew that went here and spoke so highly of the school. Northwest State has lived up to its academic reputation and more. I have found opportunities for personal growth and development not only academically, but also to expand beyond classroom knowledge. Most of my professors in my major have real world experience outside of academia and it shows.

### **WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THE PROGRAM YOU STUDIED?**

I always had an interest in the medical field. I always believe in helping people and this career I picked helps me to do that. Caring for patients as people really is at the heart of medicine, and it's a great privilege to be able to help people when they're at their most vulnerable. Medicine's a relatively secure career, offering a multitude of different areas of work and growth.

### **WHAT WAS THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE LIKE?**

Going back to school at Northwest State was a great experience with the student population being so diverse regardless of age, since I went back at 30ish. For someone like me that was a working person to continue my education but have that balance of being on campus and meeting new people to support me during my academic career at Northwest State.

### **WAS THERE ANYONE WHO WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND TO HELP YOU?**

The person that went above and beyond to help me so much was my professor, Ms. Ann Zeller. She was wonderful in the lab classroom setting, especially always making sure you understood everything and if you didn't she would make time to help you outside of the classroom time. Ms. Zeller always made sure each student always succeeded in the program. During clinicals, I had a family member pass away and Ms. Zeller was wonderful during those hard times and made sure I was able to finish my school work and also making sure my clinicals were finished a bit after the rest of the students finished. She was a wonderful educator and loves seeing her students succeed in the classroom and in the future.

### **HOW DID YOUR NSCC EDUCATION PREPARE YOU FOR YOUR NEXT STEPS?**

My education has focused on not only the learning the fundamentals, but also on the practical application of the information learned within those classes. At Parkview Physicians Group, I entered an externship at the Bryan location, which gave me the hands-on experience with patients that I needed to have to begin my career in the medical field. I also performed several routine tests and provided clinical care on a daily basis in my externship. Thank you so much for great education that allows me to strive to become better every day.



### **WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, PROFESSIONALLY?**

After graduating in the Spring of 2016. I worked at the Toledo Clinic Urgent Care in Bryan, Ohio for two years. I then moved onto working in Toledo at Promedica Toledo Hospital as a Pre-Analytical Tech in the Laboratory, since February of 2018. I will begin my journey once again of going back to school in the Fall, at the University of Toledo to earn my Bachelors of Science and my ultimate goal is to get into the MASTER of SCIENCE in BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE (MSBS) HUMAN DONATION SCIENCE PROGRAM. It's dear to my heart to become an organ procurement coordinator. My own personal and family experiences have lead me to my next chapter of wanting to help others as an organ procurement coordinator.

### **WHY WOULD YOU RECOMMEND NSCC?**

Northwest State Community College is a great school and offers a great education. It has small classes so professors pay more attention to you personally, and it has a friendly atmosphere. More time with our professors and more opportunities to work on skills, and faster to get through the program. The professors pay close attention to every single student that walks through the door and is beyond helpful to each and every one of them.

### **Additional information:**

Amanda became a Registered Medical Assistant (RMA) in 2016 through the American Medical Technologists (AMT) upon completion of the NSCC MA program. After getting her RMA (AMT), Amanda took the American Association of Medical Assistants national certification exam to become a CMA (AAMA) in 2017. The middle image below shows Amanda donating plasma to COVID-19 patients. Images courtesy of Amanda Judkins.

