**Lisa**

**Dacula, Georgia**

**Her Story:**

As a dedicated and solutions-driven individual, I look forward to bringing my leadership abilities and strong customer service mindset to any position that I obtain. I am self motivated, enthusiastic and excited about the opportunity.

By taking this cyber security certificate course through Emory University, I’m hopeful to get an in depth, first-hand knowledge and understanding of how to protect an organizations digital assets, software, hardware, and data while mitigating the risks of cyberattacks.  Learning valuable skills through lectures on theory and application of principles in lab simulations has allowed me a birds-eye view of the day-to-day responsibilities and work of a cyber security professional.  I’m thankful that throughout this course, I’ve been able to learn the strategies to reduce risk and enhance the protection of information.

Being accepted into this program has meant the world to my family and I.  This program has given me an opportunity to be challenged far outside my comfort zone, while learning several of the most important skills in technology today, security risk.  I’ve been able to be a part of a strong cohort with amazing women who keep me accountable while going through this course as a team and building relationships.  My family and I will benefit by having an opportunity to partner with an amazing company that believes in what we do, work life balance, leadership, mentoring opportunities with an ability to grow in different areas of IT via team projects and education. This opportunity will also afford us financial stability.

I am in this program because I believe in WOMEN in Technology.  As the President of Women in Technology-Campus at Gwinnett Technical College and studying AWS; while in this Cohort, I have added another layer of information skills to my repertoire. This has given me an opportunity to learn and further educate myself in Cloud technology-AWS and Cyber Security.  This cyber security class has been very interesting, and I’ve thoroughly enjoyed building a foundational skillset in cyber security, a subject that I had little prior knowledge of before this cohort.  Having a brother who has been in technology over 20 years, and being able to use him as a sounding board, cheering me on all the way has been a blessing.  This opportunity to learn and further educate myself is a mere fraction of the opportunities that can be afforded to me via technology and cyber security specifically.

I am looking to do something different because it’s time.  For over 20 years, I’ve been in business as a serial entrepreneur. I’ve owned multiple salons and educated for major corporate brands and traveled throughout my career.  I’ve hit many milestones while building my career with the support of my family behind me.  At this stage in my life, I am looking to be in a position where I can still use my leadership qualities, intellectual curiosity, exceptional customer service skills, quick learning ability, Team building and networking abilities in an organization, and can be useful without the sacrifice of standing long hours.  I would like to build a retirement plan and enjoy better balance and improved quality of life.  With a daughter headed to college and a son who plays for Atlanta United U-15 Soccer Team, It’s important to me that I’m witnessing their accomplishments as I reach and strive for new endeavors in my own life as well.

**For reference:**

**Company Name:** Self Employed,Lisa Anderson Beauty, LLC

**Job Title:** Hairstylist

**Work Experience**: WIT campus president, background in beauty and life coaching. Current student

**Other Skills:** MS Word; MS Excel; MS PowerPoint; Outlook; Teams; SharePoint

**College Degree:** Yes, Associates

Minor: Liberal Arts

Currently enrolled at Gwinnett Tech

**Education**: As the WIT-Campus President at Gwinnett Technical College, I currently hold a 3.9 GPA.  I've received my first AWS badge and I'm studying to sit for the certification exam.  In the Cyber  Security Cohort, I current hold a 95% average in class.

**Annual Income:** $80,000

**Open to Relocation? Where?** NA

**Observation characteristics from Emory (Outgoing, Quiet/Shy, Leader, Team Contributor, etc.)**

* Attends the help sessions for further assistance
* Provides great input during discussions
* Team Contributor
* Engages with other students

**Competencies: (Interpersonal Skills, Cooperation and Collaboration, Time Management & Administration, Leadership, Communication Skills, Strategic Thinker, etc.)**

* Emory Academic Proficiency Rating: Advanced
* Communicates well
* Timely work submissions