

Young Lady proves that Construction works for her

Cristie Lynne White of Holbrook Arizona might be the youngest female to become a certified heavy equipment operator in the United States. She just completed her training with the Northern Arizona Vocational Institute of Technology in their Heavy Equipment Operations program about 2 weeks before actually graduating from high school. This young lady is just past her 18th birthday and already has a good command and knowledge of 20 different pieces of equipment ranging from a skid steer, to a blade, to a scraper, to an excavator, and more.

Cristie became extremely interested in the construction industry after attending the Construction Career Day at the National Guard Armory in Phoenix during her last year in Jr. High School. Her interest became stronger after her freshman and sophomore year when she again attended the same Construction Career Day and learned more about the industry, especially from women that were in it and loving it.

At the end of her sophomore year she learned that NAVIT was offering a brand new program of Heavy Equipment Operations that is partnered with Central Arizona Community College and she applied and was accepted. She has learned to run and maintain several different pieces of equipment, as well as completing courses on surveying, grade staking, soil testing and mine safety.

The NAVIT program was a wonderful experience and has caused Cristie White to fall further in love with the industry. Because of this program she is very close to having her Associates of Applied Science degree from Central Arizona Community College and would like to work on completing her degree and find a great job in the field.

