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**"The best part was the STEP program. The fact that it paid for my entire school was incredibly helpful. I now have a certificate that will benefit me for the rest of my life because it opened the door to a good career that I am very excited to do."**

*Hiliary  
Grants Pass*

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Meet Hiliary, a recent **STEP** and **TUI** program success story and a current **Medical Billing and Coding Specialist** with Grants Pass Clinic.

Hiliary said it was difficult and scary before she started working with WorkSource Rogue Valley (WSRV) in Grants Pass. She was struggling to figure out what to do next. She said the day she started working with WSRV, her confidence and hope returned and found out about the opportunity to go back to school and get trained to start a new career through STEP.

“I needed the skills and credentials to gain employment that will allow me to afford the rising cost of living and because there is a lack of jobs that pay high enough to make ends meet without these credentials, especially in the remote small town where I live.”

“What made me happiest and surprised me the most about working with WSRV was finding out that I could do the Training Unemployment Insurance (TUI) program and also receive a grant to pay for the training. It has been a dream of mine for my entire adult life to go to school, and it surprised me that it became a reality through this program.”

“I think this program is excellent and they did a wonderful job of helping me. They changed my life for the better at a time when I felt like I had come to a dead end.”

“My life has changed in amazing ways. At first, while I was unemployed, I was extremely anxious and having a hard time coping with the fears of not finding a job. Once I started my online classes for medical coding, the fears turned into peace, focus, and determination. I was really enjoying learning all the medical terms, and I loved my books and the online classes. It gave me confidence, which was lacking, it provided education, which I had wanted my entire adult life, it helped me financially which took a lot of stress away. It gave me a career which is so fitting for the background I have with attention to detail, that it seemed that everything I had done before had paved the way for this final career change, my prior skills aligned perfectly with the required skills of this new career. This program unlocked the door at a time I least expected my life to take a turn for the better.”

*(Story submitted by WorkSource Grants Pass)*