

Both Rachel Cutshall and Briana Capps work as Benefits & Leave Specialists in the Human Resources Department. Each has decided to reach for their educational goals and utilize the tuition reimbursement program offered at A-B Tech!

Rachel Cutshall recently started back to school at Western Carolina University in the Business Administration and Law bachelor's degree program. She started her bachelor's degree years ago, but it was quickly put on hold when her daughter was born prematurely at 26 weeks. She writes, "The tuition reimbursement program is an amazing benefit the college offers to full-time employees. This is giving me the opportunity to further my education, which will help me in my current role in Human Resources. It will also give me the opportunity for potential advancement in my career within the college. In addition, participating in tuition reimbursement is providing me with the ability to attend college at an affordable price without taking thousands of dollars out in student loans."

Briana Capps is also an Adjunct Instructor in Medical Assisting. She finished her bachelor's degree at Western Carolina in 2021 with a degree in Business Administration and Law. Then, in June 2023, she decided to pursue her master's degree in Legal Studies at the University of Tennessee.

"Doing the math made me sick, so I looked to see if I would qualify for Tuition Reimbursement. When I found out I did, *and that it was \$1,000*, I jumped to apply knowing that I wouldn't have to take as much of a loan out since \$1,000 covers a few credits, and I could take summer classes to finish by next December. Having the funds for summer helps our overall family budget, but also graduating a semester earlier than expected saves \$7,000. I am proud to say that I am attending the University of Tennessee Law School and earning a master's in Legal Studies!"

The tuition reimbursement program is just one of the many opportunities that A-B Tech offers to employees to benefit both the employees and the A-B Tech community. Much of this is thanks to contributions from donors like you!