



Savana Cline, General Laborer
Trivium Packaging



Story produced by:



From HS diploma to paycheck: WorkAdvance jumpstarts teen's career

Savana Cline went directly from high school to the manufacturing workforce thanks to a WorkAdvance “elective” she took before she graduated.

Cline and five classmates from Choffin Career and Technical Center in Youngstown participated in a three-week, high school WorkAdvance bootcamp during their final semester. Upon graduating, Cline was hired as a general laborer at Trivium Packaging.

Trivium, in Youngstown, manufactures sustainable, metal

packaging for food, beverage, beauty, personal care and other applications.

At the bootcamp, which the Choffin students attended during their school day, participants received math instruction and technical training through the “Tooling U” course. They also received career readiness training, which included resume writing and interview prep. All six passed the final exam and were eligible for job placement.

One day during training, the participants visited Trivium for a plant tour. The noise shocked

Cline at first, but she quickly acclimated. She even encouraged her doubtful classmates to stick things out and keep trying.

“They showed us the line machines in the beginning, and it was a little overwhelming. There was a lot going on,” she said.

Machine operators run the production lines in the plant, which take small metal discs and form them into precisely sized and finished bottles or containers. She felt more at ease about Trivium after learning about other available positions that she found more preferable.



Savana Cline prepares a shipment of finished cans
(Trivium Packaging)

she gets the information from the computer.

“She hit the ground running. When she started, I showed her what to do, and the next thing I knew, she was bouncing back and forth packing boxes. She was also training new people within days,” Church said.

Making Money

Right now, Cline is working dayshift - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The days off alternate, so in a two-week period, she works just seven days. General laborers start out around \$16 an hour at Trivium. Then, raises are given for certain benchmarks and promotions.

After completing the training, Cline signed an agreement to work at Trivium.

First Job

“I was excited and a little nervous because it was new, and I didn’t really know anyone. I only got to see a small part of the plant, but I was interested in everything,” she said.

Cline’s job involves packing boxes of cans that get shipped to customers in the U.S. and Brazil.

“I don’t know the exact number of boxes I can do in a day, but I know I can get through a lot,” she said.

Bill Church is Cline’s manager. He says every customer dictates what’s needed for packing, and

Along with Trivium’s good benefits package, she’s most excited about what this job means for her financial future.

“First, there’s no college debt. I feel like I will retire far better off than my parents will. I am going to be well-equipped and prepared if something does happen in the future. All I’m doing right now is saving money,” Cline said.

Workforce Ecosystem Players



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