

GRASP News

November 2018

GRASP Alumna Caitlynn Childress

Gochland High School (2011)

Christopher Newport University (2015)



What did you study in college? I graduated with a BSBA - Concentration in Accounting, Minor in Spanish.

What is the best thing GRASP has done for you? GRASP helped me pay for college classes! Which lowered my overall student loans I was responsible for after graduation.

What are you doing now? I initially worked as a Senior Auditor at the Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts in Richmond, Virginia. As of October 15, I am now a Senior Auditor at Capital One.

What one piece of "educational advice" would you give to high school students? As a high school student, the best thing you can do for yourself to prepare for college is not only have an idea of what you would like to study in college, but try to get experience with it beforehand to see if you really like it! So many friends of mine changed majors in school because the first time studying for the major they chose (e.g. accounting, biology, psychology) was in college! Switching majors can add additional classes to your course load and also adds the possibility of setting your graduation date back, so have a good idea of what you want to study! Also look for internships to start gaining work experience related to your major in either your sophomore or junior year; this will help build your resume when looking for jobs as a senior. Some internships may even lead to a full-time job right after graduation!





What is the biggest life challenge you faced relative to your educational path? Gaining confidence and learning interview skills. As a college student, entering the "real-world" can be intimidating. However, every college offers opportunities to learn these skills prior to heading out for your first interview(s). Take advantage of resume workshops, mock interviews, etc. that will help you learn and gain confidence as you get closer to graduation! There are also business fraternities that focus on teaching these skills to students that are very helpful! Don't feel alone, every student is learning this as they go through school too, and your school is there to help you!



Expanding students' opportunities to learn

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GRASP is a Virginia 501(c)(3) nonprofit. GRASP seeks to give ALL students in Virginia the opportunity to build fulfilling lives through post-secondary educational pathways.

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