

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

Hands-On to High-Tech

Matthew's journey began in November 2025 when he attended a re-employment (RESEA) session while collecting unemployment and learned about training opportunities available through GST Michigan Works! Drawing on his experience as a mechanical technician and a growing interest in information technology, he recognized an opportunity to expand his skills and position himself for new career possibilities. He enrolled in a short-term training program focused on building high-demand skills in the Information Technology (IT) sector through Global IT.

At first, Matthew was concerned that IT opportunities might be limited. However, he soon realized that combining his mechanical expertise with newly acquired technical skills would make him a strong candidate for hybrid roles that blend maintenance, troubleshooting, automation, and technology.

After successfully completing his IT Professional training, Matthew continued building on his momentum by pursuing CISCO networking certification to strengthen his credentials and marketability further. His dedication and willingness to invest in his future have already paid dividends, helping him expand his skillset, take on greater leadership responsibilities, and increase his earning potential.

Reflecting on his experience, Matthew shared, "I never imagined walking into [GST] Michigan Works! would be such a benefit."

What began as a single reemployment session became a launching point for meaningful career growth. With the support of GST Michigan Works! in Lapeer, targeted training, and grant-funded assistance, Matthew gained the tools, confidence, and qualifications needed to pursue new opportunities and build a stronger future for himself and his family.