



Dedication with Motivation

Ben Brown

PIA 2014 Hagerstown Branch Campus, MD
Program Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT)
Length 16 Months
Employment ... PSA Airlines
Position Airframe & Powerplant Technician

It's impressive. Eight interviews and six job offers all within a three week time period. It doesn't happen to everyone, but for PIA-Hagerstown graduate Ben Brown, it did.

As valedictorian of his April 2014 class, Ben is currently employed by PSA Airlines in Charlotte, N.C.

"I chose PSA because they had the best future outlook. I did a lot of research, and it was the best fit for me," Ben said. "They were getting 30 brand new planes, and shortly after I started 47 were transferred over. And I like Charlotte."

Originally from Harrisburg, PA, Ben always liked working on cars. He knew he wanted a lucrative career and not "just a job," so he found PIA by researching postsecondary technical schools. He also liked the small class sizes that the Hagerstown campus had to offer at the time.

Although many PIA graduates go on to work in other technical industries, Ben realized about halfway through school that he really liked planes and knew he wanted to continue working in aviation.

"We had a class on resumes one day and that really helped a lot of people," Ben said. "I went to the job fair on campus and the career services department helped me schedule interviews, too. I ended up with interviews Monday through Thursday in one week – that was intense."

Currently, PSA has a 106 aircraft fleet of Bombardier CRJ 200, 700 and 900 NextGen. They are committed to grow to a 150 aircraft fleet through 2017.



"I went to the job fair on campus and the career services department helped me schedule interviews, too. I ended up with interviews Monday through Thursday in one week – that was intense."

"This job is a lot of fun. You never know what's going to happen," Ben said. "Some people compare it to working in an Emergency Room. We always do the three basic checks, but then I could have to repair anything. I mostly work on the airframe."

Ben has some great perks working for an airline, including company profit sharing, free flights for him and his fiancé, discounted flights for family and friends, and early retirement potential. Ben is optimistic about his airline career and hopes to continue in this field.

"My instructors really made airlines sound like a lot of fun," Ben said. "They gave me an inside look at it with all honesty, and they were right on. It's not all flowers and roses, and I appreciated them telling me that."

