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10,000th Career Readiness Certificate Issued

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) recognizes Tamara Dolney of Webster for being the 10,000th recipient of the [National Career Readiness Certificate™ \(NCRC\)](#).

The NCRC is an assessment-based credential used to verify an individual's core employability skills. It measures three essential areas: reading for information, applied mathematics and locating information.

One year ago Dolney, a 43-year-old married mother of two, was working inconsistent hours as a home health aide in the Webster area. Frustrated with not getting enough hours to support her family, she took a seasonal position. After another seasonal position did not work out, Dolney filed for unemployment.

Dolney then came to DLR for help. After completing labor market research about jobs needed in the Webster area, the DLR representative and Dolney agreed it would be beneficial to obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL).

In order to receive financial assistance for an occupational skills license such as a CDL, the workforce training program requires its participants to take the NCRC.

"The NCRC identifies the skills and skill levels employees must have to do certain jobs effectively," said state Labor and Regulation Secretary Marcia Hultman. "Individuals then have a clear picture of the skill levels they need in order to qualify for and be successful in the jobs they want."

Dolney initially scored a Bronze level. However, after more tests and practice she earned a Silver level NCRC. One of her previous employers has offered her a CDL position after completing her training.

"And to think one year ago I was only making \$8.50 an hour, and now I'll be making \$21.26 an hour. I am very excited and thankful for the support from DLR and my employer," said Dolney.