Tawnya Henry recently graduated from Spencerian College’s ABHES-accredited Medical Laboratory Technician A.A.S. program, MLT-090. Her story is one of overcoming overwhelming circumstances through sheer determination and true devotion.

Tawnya has had to endure many hardships over the past few years. First, her father had cancer and passed away at the young age of 42. Shortly after her father’s passing, her family lost their home to a fire. As if that were not tragic enough, soon after the fire, her long-time boyfriend was killed in a motorcycle accident. Tawnya was then left alone with an enormous amount of responsibility, including caring for her mother, younger sister and older sister who has Down’s Syndrome.

When Tawnya graduated high school she attended a university in hopes of becoming a physician; but, when tragedy struck, she felt it was in the family’s best interest to drop out of college to help care for her them. Tawnya decided to return to school, but settled for a shorter, less expensive educational endeavor due to her circumstances.

While in school, Tawnya was an excellent student who has worked very hard to complete her degree. Her cumulative GPA throughout her program was a 4.0. She never complained or asked for special consideration or any sympathy for her situation. In fact, very few individuals were even aware of her situation at all.

Tawnya has most recently been offered a position as a Medical Laboratory Technician at the University of Louisville Hospital. She will make a great addition to its staff and to the healthcare profession as a whole.

Spencerian College, Louisville, Kentucky, has held ABHES programmatic accreditation for its Medical Laboratory Technician program since 2004.

This Success Story was presented to ABHES by Tina Lewis, MT (ASCP)(AMT), MLT Program Director, Medical Department Co-Director, Spencerian College, Louisville, KY.