

TRAINING FUTURES GRAD LANDS RAYTHEON IT JOB

A recent Training Futures graduate has just accepted a permanent full-time IT position with Raytheon. Taehum Park, 48, who graduated from Training Futures in March of 2010, is elated that the offer comes with a 70% pay increase over what he was making as a temp with the company. Park, who had an IT background, came to the U.S. from South Korea almost five years ago with his wife and two children. He worked a few low-wage jobs such as sales associate at a donut store before he found out about Training Futures from a graduate. One month after his TF graduation and winning the Team Leadership Award, he began as a temp with Raytheon. He was worried that he wouldn't last long due to his accent, difficulty with unfamiliar IT terminology and not knowing many people. He worked hard and made it a habit to stay a couple of hours extra at the end of each day to study and review the day's events.

After about four months, he started to "catch up with the stream of the company" and began to be the lead ticket holder (an IT technician's term for workload.) Since December, he has been the top ticket closer in the nation among 450 Raytheon and contractor technicians. He continues to study and has obtained several IT certificates including Microsoft and HP Certified Professional certificates. All this work paid off with this recent promotion. He is now managing ten IT support technicians and training new IT employees. Many Raytheon executives call Taehum personally when they have issues with their computers. He is grateful to Training Futures for helping him on this journey.

"I should say that this is all thanks to Training Futures. It was the portal to a new environment in the USA for me and opened a door to a new world. It made me confront challenges with confidence and courage. What Training Futures gave me was not a hardware thing (IT technology) but it programmed me, so to speak, and set me up with a strong mind, which is much more important to human beings."