

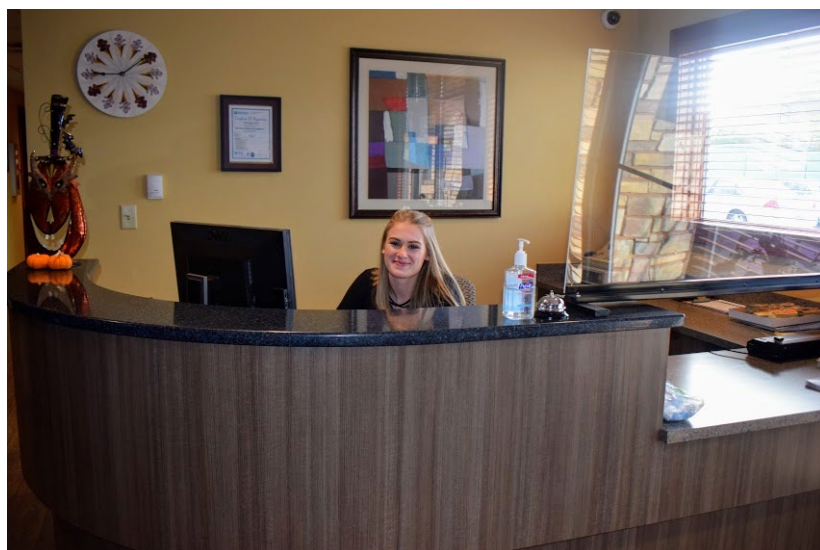
# “The Hippo Experience”



Meet: Anna, Class of 2020

“From freshman through junior year I struggled a lot in school. I did not like school, I would say I still don’t like school. But Senior year came around and I got my act together, I was able to get some better grades and at the time I was not happy with the job I was in, working at in a fast-food company. It really was not my style, I wanted something more that could potentially lead to a career. I met Renee at a point of

my life where I did not really know what I wanted to do. An announcement was posted on google classroom by a counselor about a Youth Talent Advisor who had an internship opening at Umpqua Dairy. I didn’t tell anyone I was going to apply or meet Renee because I felt that I wanted to prove to my family I could do it on my own. Renee assisted me in submitting an application and a resume for the internship. After a couple of days Renee informed me that they had picked me to come for an interview. Umpqua Dairy chose me to fill in the intern position, I was excited about this opportunity because I felt like I had been guided in the right direction to be able to succeed in this new role. Which led to a full-time paid position and learning other aspects of the dairy such as working in the lab. It was really fun to be able to apply the science learned in high school and understand how people utilize these skills in real life.



Umpqua Dairy became a bright spot in my life, during a tough end to my senior year as many of those special and key moments such as prom or having a normal graduation were taken away because of the pandemic. However, I found that the normalcy of having a job to go to was SUPER SUPER great! Being able to work at Umpqua Dairy at that time allowed me to have a purpose and work towards my goals. Renee has always been consistent and continues to

check-in on me to see how I am doing. It was super helpful to have Umpqua Dairy and Renee for that positive support and being mindful of my situation as a high school student. Especially, being courteous to the fact that at the time I was still trying to figure my life out. The life lessons I have learned from working at Umpqua Dairy allowed me to mature and understand the importance of being responsible such as being able to wake up and be ready to be productive to tackle on the problems that arises at a work environment. My favorite moments at Umpqua Dairy were the social interaction with clients and coworkers,



so it was a really tough decision to leave. My time at Umpqua Dairy allowed me to pay for beauty school without relying on student loans. Keeping me on track to set new goals in my life. my parents always taught this to me and I lived by always setting a goal, it doesn't matter how big or how small, if you set a goal you have something to work for, something to motivate you, something to grow towards. Now that I am at the end of my schooling, I am confident to be focused on the next chapter of my life. I am only 18 and I am fresh out high school, but getting that job at Umpqua Dairy plus having to meet other people's expectations has given me a sense of ownership of my life. At the moment the future is up in the air for everyone, but I am most excited about trying new things, the challenges that life throws at you. I love that things are hard, but I love the fact that I been able to work through them and continue to move forward to enjoy future success in starting a business, starting a family and continue this life journey.

