

## Brandon (Kentucky)

Brandon is a strapper at UniFirst. “I grab a bundle and I look at the colors and the size. I count how many there is supposed to be and then I tie them together,” he explains. Brandon performs an important quality check before bundles of uniforms are shipped out to UniFirst customers.

Prior to this, Brandon spent 10 years working in a sheltered workshop where it was common to take home paychecks as low as \$2. However, Brandon and the staff who supported him recognized that he was capable of doing so much more.

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Brandon’s supported employment journey began with a process of discovery to learn what he liked best and was good at. From there, Brandon was trained to successfully complete job tasks that would be required of an employer. These experiences prepared him to apply for and get hired in his dream job. “I make a lot of money and I like the people I work with,” he says.

Brandon’s contributions to the team go beyond his strong work ethic and attention to detail. “Our employees are proud to work for a place that would hire someone with intellectual disabilities,” UniFirst Director of Human Resources, Kerry Bailey, says. “I think he aligns perfectly with what we’re trying to accomplish with our team partners and the type of people that work here. The inclusion and the diversity that he brings aligns very well with our core values.”

