



**GIS MARKETING &
COMMUNICATIONS**
CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Passport2Success 5th Cohort Graduate

Graduations bring elation and a sense of accomplishment. For the students in the 5th cohort of the Ministry of Education, Training and Employment initiative Passport2Success, there was pride and achievement on their faces as they celebrated completing the programme.

Students, proud parents, Ministry officials, and private and public sector individuals involved in the programme were present at the Wharf Restaurant on Monday, 5 December 2011 to watch as the 5th cohort students received their Passports to Success.

The graduation was a landmark event not only for the students who were completely committed to the programme, but also for Passport2Success as this graduation marked the largest set of graduates to come through the curriculum successfully.

Ms Shannon Seymour of the Wellness Centre opened the ceremony by congratulating the students, saying: “The 5th cohort group was able to accomplish several goals, including some of the students being able to gain full time employment with the supporting companies involved. We are most proud of everyone who succeeded in this programme!”

Ms Seymour conveyed her appreciation to the community, parents of graduates, and the public and private sector for coming on board and making the programme a revolutionary step in the educational development of the youth of the Cayman Islands.

Mrs. Mary Rodrigues, Chief Officer of the Ministry of Education, was in attendance to congratulate all of the graduates. Mrs. Rodrigues, sharing her enthusiasm about the programme, said, “95% of the students in this cohort have started and completed the

program and the officials at the Ministry of Education are extremely proud of each and every candidate in the program.”

Mrs. Rodrigues continued, “The programme is not an easy one, as the curriculum is built to advance the student. This programme instils a sense of pride in each person that passes through and we are always impressed and touched by all of the young people.”

The Passport programme’s successes include a 90 percent rate of graduation and all members of the 1st cohort being successfully employed. Also the Education Ministry has been approached by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) which is interested in developing similar programmes throughout the Caribbean.

For more information in regards to Passport2Success as well as application forms and dates in regards to the start of the next programme, visit www.passport2success.ky

(GIS)

Sidebar: Passport2Success Programme

The National Employment Passport2Success Programme is a Ministry of Education, Training and Employment initiative that runs four times a year. The employment preparedness course is a well developed 12 week programme that is designed to enhance workplace readiness skills for 17 to 20-year-old Caymanians who want to increase their employability. The programme is sponsored by Butterfield Group, CML Offshore Recruitment and LIME.

Each of the students attending the course receives practical hands-on training, work experience, occupational, personal and job-specific skills, a chance to impress potential

employers, and a monthly stipend (pay) with potential performance related bonuses. Passport2Success allows students to customise their programme by choosing from a variety of activities and training modules.

Source: Ministry of Education, Training and Employment

Photo captions *Photo by Information Officer Kristi Anderson*

1. Group photo of all graduates in Passport2Success's 5th cohort and support staff, including Mrs. Rodrigues, Chief Officer in the Ministry of Education, Training and Employment.
2. Student Christopher Myles receives diploma from Chief Officer Mrs. Rodrigues

For the official Cayman Islands Government web portal, www.gov.ky:

Web title: Passport2Success 5th Cohort Graduate

Web blurb: The largest group of students celebrate completing the programme.