## Success Story of LeratoMphagi

After Matric, I did part time jobs as I was not accepted at any tertiary institution to study further. I then forwarded my CV to the Department of Labour.

And what followed was nothing short of amazing.

I was offered a bursary to attend a course at the African Academy for the academic year of 2007, to study Draughting.

I successfully completed the course and commenced work for Bateman (now TENOVA) from 2008.

I was retrenched in 2009 due to the recession. This did not disappoint me, instead I used this time to study further by registering for Mechanical Engineering.

Whilst looking for a Draughting job, I got a job at a retail store as a gift wrapper and eventually becoming a customer service assistant.

It was late in 2010 when I was offered a job in the Draughting field. An EPCM company was looking for a trainee draughtswomen and they hired me.

I worked there as a junior 3D modeller for 3 years (2011-2014) in this company when an Engineering repairs company head-hunted me.

I currently work in this company as an AutoCAD operator (2D and 3D modelling of client specific drawings) and assisting with the Quality Management System of the company doing ISO 9001:2015 and OHSAS 18001:2007 internal auditing.

This company is so impressed with my 3D skills that they offered to send me for training in Solidworks which I am currently attending at the AA.

The AA has been the only way in which I was able to secure a proper career in some field and have an opportunity to up-skill myself

If it were not for the AA, I shudder to think what my future would have been - meagre with little possibilities of upskilling.

I thank the AA most sincerely from my heart for all they have done for me. God Bless the AA...

