

ABOUT PROJECT SEARCH

Project SEARCH was first developed in 1996 at Cincinnati Children's Hospital to provide employment and education opportunities for individuals with significant disabilities.

Project SEARCH was replicated in Madison, Wisconsin in 2008. It is a collaboration of the VA Hospital, UW Hospital, Madison Metropolitan School District, Wisconsin Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dane County Adult Community Services and Madison Area Rehabilitation Centers, Inc.

PROJECT SEARCH

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THE GROWING LIST OF BUSINESSES HIRING PROJECT SEARCH GRADUATES

**"I feel like I have found my match with
Project SEARCH. It teaches me job skills"**
Mariah, student intern

- VA Hospital
- UW Hospital & Clinics
- Madison Metropolitan School District
- Mendota Mental Health Institute
- Madison Area Rehabilitation Centers Inc.
- Wisconsin Board for Person's with Developmental Disabilities
- Wisconsin Dept of Corrections
- Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources
- City of Madison Fleet Services
- Madison Mallard's
- Prairie Athletic Club
- Dane County Sherriff's Department
- Capitol Kids
- Fromagination
- Barriques
- 106 Country Music
- Lane's Bakery
- HyVee
- Wilmar Center
- UW Union South
- Steenbock's
- Angelo's Restaurant
- Promega
- Capital Brewery
- Madison Ice Arena
- Rocky Rococo
- The Livingston Inn
- Per Blue

PROJECT SEARCH

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION PROGRAM



Project | SEARCH

PROJECT SEARCH HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION PROGRAM

The High School Transition program is a one year educational program for students with disabilities. Participants have met all academic requirements for graduation and spend a school year reporting to the Project SEARCH host business where they learn skills needed to obtain employment.

Project SEARCH combines classroom time with a year-long unpaid internship at the VA and UW Hospitals. This combination of instruction and immersion in the workplace setting prepares interns to meet employer expectations.



Project SEARCH students gain experience in a variety of settings: Sterile Processing, Surgical Procedure Packaging, Mail Room, Pharmacy, Clinical labs, Laundry, Culinary Services, Environmental Services, and Patient Services.



Program Objectives

Project SEARCH prepares interns for employment in the community. During this program, students will:

- Receive classroom instruction on employability and independent living skills.
- Participate in internship rotations
- Work with a teacher and job coach to learn how to perform internship tasks independently
- Engage in job seeking activities
- Complete Project SEARCH with the skills needed to obtain a community job that aligns with their vocational goals.

Program Entrance Requirements

The Project Search application process takes place each winter. Student applicants must meet the following requirements for consideration:

- Willing to participate in unpaid training
- Able to participate in a full day schedule starting at 8:00 a.m.
- Between 18-21 years of age
- Comfortable in a hospital setting
- Eligible for DVR services
- Application submitted to Dane County Adult Community Services for eligibility determination.
- Have independent personal cares to include personal hygiene, restroom, eating and grooming skills
- Hygiene appropriate to hospital expectations, including independent control of all body fluids.
- Maintain appropriate behavior and social skills
- Be able to communicate effectively
- Pass drug screening, felony check and have up-to-date immunizations.
- Documented success in previous work experience (including school, volunteer or paid work)
- Take direction from supervisors and modify behavior
- Willing to learn to independently manage transportation options including public transportation and Para-transit when available.
- Desire and plan to work in the community at the conclusion of Project SEARCH.