

Interns participating in classroom

How do interns grow within ProjectSEARCH?

- Interns learn the importance of being responsible and independent by learning how to take public transportation to work and working in an integrated setting.
- We work together on social and communication skills that are critical for a workplace through real life examples and role play.
- We match intern interests with internship opportunities.
- We monitor intern comfort levels in the workplace and provide supports as needed.
- We work together to prepare for interviewing and keeping a job.

More Information

What is the application process?

What to do if you are ready to take the next step toward a bright future:

- ✚ Talk to your teachers, case managers, vocational rehabilitation counselors & family to make sure this program is right for you.
- ✚ Complete the application with your counselor & family by the deadline.
- ✚ Attend an Open House & ask questions of the staff & current interns.
- ✚ Complete an interview with the ProjectSEARCH Committee.



A partnership between Pearl Buck Center, PeaceHealth SacredHeart Medical Center, Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation Services and the Oregon Department of Human Services

ProjectSEARCH is a 9 month transition program which provides employability training and education for individuals with disabilities.

The program occurs onsite at a business which has the commitment to support people with cognitive disabilities and or autism in the workplace.

The end goal is to secure employment, utilizing the skills gained during the program.



Alex working alongside a coworker

Contact Us to Learn More:

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Jordan delivering a full cart of supplies

How did ProjectSEARCH begin?

ProjectSEARCH was developed at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, a research environment that fosters visionary thinking and innovation. It all began in 1996, when Erin Riehle was Director of Cincinnati Children's Emergency Department. Erin felt that, because the hospital served individuals with developmental disabilities. It made sense that they should commit to hiring people in this group. She wondered if it would be possible to train people with developmental disabilities to fill some of the high-turnover, entry level positions in her department, which involved complex and systematic tasks such as stocking supply cabinets, cleaning rooms, or taking patients to their rooms or cars. (Source: projectsearch.us/About.aspx)



What is the academic year like for the interns?

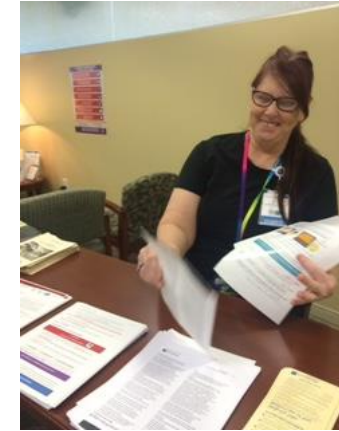
- ✚ We follow the 4J school district calendar
- ✚ 2 weeks are spent in the classroom during orientation and transition into 3 rotations lasting 10 or 11 weeks onsite
- ✚ Breaks between rotations are spent in the community working on job search related activities

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." ~ Henry Ford

Who qualifies to participate?

The following should be considered guidelines for eligibility:

- ✚ Willing to work & learn on the job
 - ✚ Willing to work toward independence including living, transportation & gaining competitive employment
 - ✚ Commit to a 9 month unpaid internship with intent to participate fully in the program
 - ✚ In final year of school eligibility or transitioning out of vocational programs, verified disability, at least 18 years of age & with a funding source
 - ✚ Current immunizations, ability to pass drug screening and background check, TB test & receive the flu shot
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Susan collating paperwork

ProjectSEARCH Curriculum

Interns begin the academic year with 2 weeks of classroom instruction to prepare for the initial internship placement. Once the internships begin interns spend six hours onsite with an hour each day in the classroom working on the topics listed below and return at the conclusion of the work day to debrief about their day, ask questions and receive coaching.

- ✚ Team Building
- ✚ Workplace Safety
- ✚ Technology
- ✚ Self-advocacy
- ✚ Maintaining Employment
- ✚ Financial Literacy
- ✚ Health & Wellness
- ✚ Preparing for Employment