

INTERNS WANTED!

Bergen County
Project | SEARCH[®]

EmployABILITY Skills Training Program



The Project SEARCH Transition-to-Work Program is a unique, business-led, one-year employment preparation program that takes place entirely at the workplace. Total workplace immersion facilitates a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration, and hands-on training through worksite rotations. The program culminates in individualized job development.

The goal for each program participant is competitive employment.



basic eligibility

- Between ages 18-30
- Eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Appropriate workplace hygiene/behavior
- Desire to work competitively (min 16hrs/wk)

quick facts

- Total workplace immersion
- Travel training & Long-term support
- Three 10-week non-paid internships
- ≈ 90% graduate employment rate

Visit projectsearch.bergenworkforce.org to apply or learn more!

Application Process

Interns are typically referred to the program through their child study team, 18 to 21 programs, support coordinator, friends, family members, or vocational rehabilitation counselor. Interested candidates must apply to be considered for acceptance into the program. Each location can accommodate 6-12 interns each year.

Applications are accepted year-round. The Bergen County Project SEARCH Advisory Committee carries out the selection process, which includes an application packet review, hands-on assessments, interviews, and scoring on a rubric related to entrance considerations. Selected interns will be matched to the most appropriate program site based on location, interest, and skills.

Which Program Should You Choose?

The **High School Program** serves:

- students ages 18 to 21,
- on an Individual Education Program (IEP), and
- have completed all of the credit requirements for graduation, and will be entering their last year of high school or high school eligibility *

The **Adult Program** serves:

- young adults ages 18 to 30,
- who have a documented disability, and
- have exited the school system or special education program (exhausted educational entitlements; beyond high school eligibility)

** High school program participants must agree to accept their diploma and exit the school system upon program completion; they may enter the program during the school term in which student turns 21 years old or earlier if decide to graduate. Many successful students come to Project SEARCH after 1-2 years in traditional transition programs. High school students must get approval from their school district to apply.*



Program Partners & Contacts

Bergen County's Project SEARCH is driven by a collaboration with the following community partners all centered on providing employment opportunities to young adults with disabilities:



- County of Bergen
- Bergen County Workforce Development Board (WDB)
- Holy Name Medical Center
- Bergen New Bridge Medical Center
- Hackensack University Medical Center (2016-2019)
- Bergen County Special Services
- Arc of Bergen & Passaic
- North Jersey Friendship House
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS)
- Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

Bergen County Program Coordinator

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High School Site Coordinator

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Adult Site Coordinator

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