Benefit of Hiring

- Performance and retention in high-turnover, entry-level positions increases dramatically
- People with disabilities working enhance your image and the image of your business
- Hiring persons with disabilities qualifies the business for significant tax credits
- Supported employment is available to help train and fine tune the skills of the employee
- Business experiences increase in local, regional and national recognition
- Business can receive tax deductions to help cover the cost of making their business accessible

Our Partners

- Escambia County School District
- Santa Rosa County School District
- Baptist Hospital
- Gulf Breeze Hospital
- University of West Florida
- Santa Rosa Medical Center
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Workforce ESCAROSA

Contact Information

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact:

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  Special Populations Network
  850-595-6181
- Lisa Bloodworth
  Southeastern Vocational Services
  850-595-1330

High School Transition Program

A business-led collaboration that enables young adults with disabilities to gain and maintain employment through training and career exploration

Lakeview Center, Inc

1900 N Palafox St.
Pensacola, FL 32501
www.ProjectSEARCH.us
Project SEARCH is a high school transition program for young adults with disabilities. It is a one-year internship program targeted to students whose goal is competitive employment.

The program takes place in a healthcare or business setting where total immersion in the workplace facilitates the teaching and learning process through continuous feedback and acquisition of employability and competitive work skills. Each site has a certified teacher and job coaches to work with the students and the business.

**Benefits to Students:**
- Participation in a variety of internships in a high-status local business
- Acquire competitive, transferable, and marketable job skills
- Increased confidence, independence, and self esteem
- Obtain on-site and individualized instruction, support, and accommodations
- Linkage to vocational rehabilitation and other adult service agencies.

**Eligibility Requirements**
- 18-22 years old
- Desires to work in community
- Willing to access independent transportation options
- Has met all academic requirements for graduation
- Has basic communication skills
- Has appropriate social, grooming and hygiene skills
- Has independent toileting and feeding skills
- Can pass drug screen and felony background check
- Have up-to-date immunizations
- 2nd or 3rd grade math and reading skills (preferred)

**What is Project SEARCH?**

Project SEARCH is a high school transition program for young adults with disabilities. It is a one-year internship program targeted to students whose goal is competitive employment.

**Daily Schedule**

8:30 am .............................................................. Arrive
8:45 am .............................................................. Daily Line-up
9:00 am - 1:00 pm ........................................ At Worksites Rotation
1:10 pm - 1:30 pm ............. Lunch With Peers and Wrap-up
1:30 pm .............................................................. Leave

**Project SEARCH Model**

The Project SEARCH program is based on a three component model designed to transition disabled students to work.

- **School-Based Learning Component**
  - Career Counseling
  - Selection of a Career Major
  - Program of Study
  - Integration of Academics & Vocational Education
  - Evaluation

- **Work-Based Learning Component**
  - Work Experience (Non-Paid)
  - Job Training
  - Workplace Mentoring
  - Instruction in Workplace Competencies
  - Instruction in all Aspects of an Industry

- **Connecting Activities Component**
  - Matching Students with Employers
  - Establishing Liaisons Between Education and Work
  - Technical Assistance
  - Assistance to Integrate School-based & Work-based Learning
  - Encourage Participation of Employers
  - Job Placement or Further Training
  - Collection & Analysis of Post-program outcomes of participants

From American Vocational Association, 1994