



# Project | SEARCH

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IVY MOUNT  
SCHOOL & PROGRAMS  
Exceptional Programs for Exceptional Students

Project SEARCH was originally launched in 1996 at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Designed to prepare young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities for competitive employment, this one-year "school- to-work" transition program now operates over 400 locations in six countries.

The Project SEARCH model includes total workplace immersion. Interns participate in daily classroom instruction and on-the-job training, where they receive feedback from teachers, job coaches and employers. Interns gain hands-on work experience at four unique host sites: National Institutes of Health, Smithsonian Institution, Embassy Suites-DC, and Montgomery County Government. Thanks to a tremendous partnership between our host businesses, SEEC, DCPS, Ivymount School, Maryland DDA/DORS, and DC Rehabilitation Services Administration, the Project SEARCH program continues to prepare interns with skills that match labor needs in today's integrated workforce market.

Interns have the opportunity to gain skills in data entry, administrative support, hospitality, patient care, housekeeping, cooking/nutrition, building services, grounds maintenance, and customer service.



## ELIGIBLE PROJECT SEARCH CANDIDATES

- Are between 18-30 years old
- Have a documented intellectual/developmental disability
- Exited/graduated high school by next summer
- Have prior volunteer, internship, or paid work experience
- Show willingness to take risks, accept critical feedback, and grow in independence (including travel).
- Show a demonstrated commitment to employment and career readiness

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## BENEFITS TO INTERNS:

- Participate in "real, meaningful" work at high-status local businesses
- Acquire competitive, transferable and marketable skills to kick-start careers
- Gain increased independence, self-esteem, and confidence
- Receive proactive workplace instruction, training, and coaching from industry leaders and trained professionals
- Gain support through the challenging transition to adulthood

