



About Project SEARCH

Project SEARCH is a unique business-led transition program for students with disabilities. Students who want to work have the chance to explore careers and develop transferable job skills. The goal of the Project SEARCH program is competitive employment for each intern.

Designed as an internship program, Project SEARCH affords students the opportunity to put employability skills into practice. For five days a week, students report to the host business (SDSU) and learn employability skills in the classroom and job skills while participating in targeted internships.

They receive support with accommodations, adaptations, and on-the-job skills training.

Students who have completed all academic requirements for graduation from high school may apply for enrollment in Project SEARCH. Participants must be 18 to 21 years old.



Project SEARCH Selection Criteria

1. Student must be at least 18 years of age.

2. Student must have completed all requirements for graduation.
3. Student must agree that this will be the last year of services, and will accept the diploma at the end of the Project SEARCH school year.
4. Student must meet eligibility requirements for DRS-SBVI.
5. Student must have independent personal hygiene and grooming skills.
6. Student must have independent daily living skills.
7. Student must maintain appropriate behavior and social skills in school and workplace.
8. Student must take direction to change behavior.
9. Student must be able to communicate effectively.
10. Student must have the desire to explore transportation options, including public transportation when available, and be trained to travel independently.
11. Student must have previous successful experience in a work environment. (paid or unpaid)
12. Student must have the ability to pass a drug screen and felony check.
13. Student must have immunizations up to date.
14. Student must have the desire to work competitively at the conclusion of the Project SEARCH program.



A Typical Day's Schedule

Daily Schedule

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| 8:00 am | Arrive at SDSU |
| 8:00-8:45 am | Instruction |
| 8:30-8:45 am | Leave for job site |
| Approximately 12:00 pm | Lunch begins (depends on Job Site Schedule) |
| 12:30-1:00 pm | Return to job site (depends on Job Site Schedule) |
| 2:15 pm | Return to office |
| 2:45 pm | Day Ends |

School day: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 2:45 pm

Time required - Full days for one school year

Calendar: Program follows the Brookings School District calendar.

The internships are typically 10 – 12 weeks. Students are matched to the most appropriate job site based on interests and skills. A job coach works with the student until the tasks assigned can be performed independently. The time and instruction is individualized. Students are evaluated by the job coach, the instructor and the department supervisor.

Job placement is the final goal of the program. Students can be employed after the first semester of the school year and continue in Project SEARCH.