

# CCS Project SEARCH

## What is Project SEARCH?

Project SEARCH's Mission: To support the inclusion and independence of individuals with disabilities in the workforce.



### Why is Project SEARCH for me?

- Guided transition from school to adult life
- Real-life work experience and training
- Rewarding jobs experiences that match the interests and skills of the individual
- Interns work alongside colleagues with and without disabilities while reporting to the same management

### Frequently Asked Q & A

Q: If I am selected for Project SEARCH, can I still graduate with my high school class?

A: Yes, you may still socially graduate with your high school class, but you will not receive your diploma until the completion of the program.

Q: Will I be paid to attend Project SEARCH?

A: No, this is an internship program through Fort Hayes Career Center. The goal is to help students secure competitive integrated employment upon completion.

### Overview

Project SEARCH is a one year program designed for students with disabilities, between 18-21 years of age, who have met all of their high school graduation criteria. Students and families may choose to apply for Project SEARCH, which allows the student to stay enrolled in school an additional year to continue learning community, job, and life skills.

The Columbus City Schools (CCS) Project SEARCH program is connected with Fort Hayes Career Center and the host business is the Hilton Columbus at Easton. At the end of the program, the students will earn their high school diploma, along with their Project SEARCH Completion Certificate.

### Need to Know

- The IEP team will meet to discuss post-secondary options, including employment goals and training. Interested students will tour in their senior year, and apply if desired.
- Prospective students must be eligible for vocational counseling services through Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD). Project SEARCH students will be linked with an OOD vendor to assist with job training and finding competitive integrated employment upon successful completion of the program.
- Students rotate between 3 internships (job placements) throughout the school year and work with job trainers to assist in learning their internships.

**If you have questions about transition services, contact your student's Transition Coordinator.**

CCS Office of Accelerated and Extended Learning: [ccsoh.us/domain/186](https://ccsoh.us/domain/186)  
CCS Transition Services: [ccsoh.us/Page/1226](https://ccsoh.us/Page/1226)

