

Apply now!

Applicants must:

- Be at least 18 years of age at the start of the program year
- Have completed high school requirements necessary for graduation by the start of the program year
- Meet eligibility requirements for the Office of EIPD
- **Have the desire and plan to work competitively in the community at the conclusion of the Project SEARCH program.**

Contact Us:

[Pitt County Schools](#)

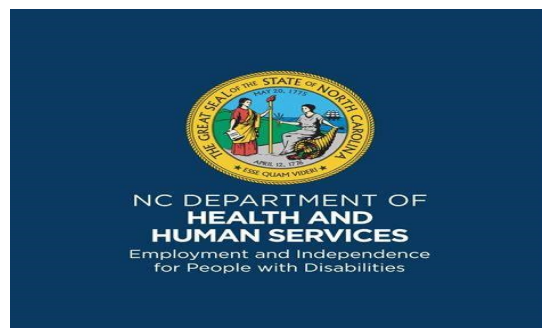
Cameron Sastre; EC Specialist  
(252) 908-9553  
sastrec@pitt.k12.nc.us

[RHA Health Services](#)

Gregory Richardson; Director  
704-614-7874  
grichardson@rhanet.org

[EIPD](#)

Lynn Hodges; Unit Manager  
252 999-7350  
lynn.hodges@dhhs.nc.gov



Project | SEARCH

<http://www.projectsearch.us/>



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

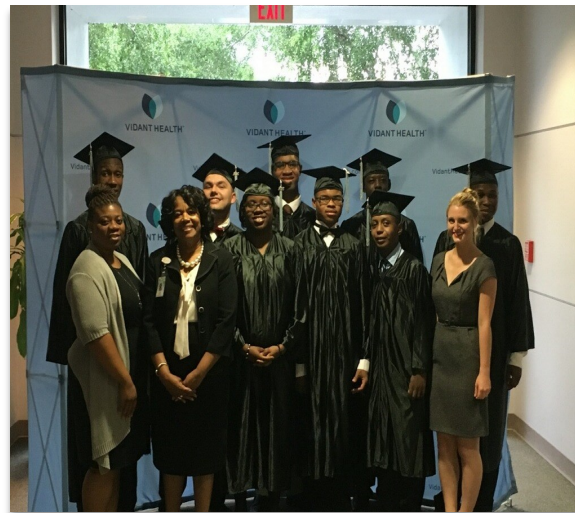
## Project SEARCH

Developed in 1996 as a partnership between Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and Great Oaks Career Campuses in Ohio, Project SEARCH began as a way to fill employment needs in high-turnover, entry-level positions at the hospital while giving students with developmental disabilities from Great Oaks the opportunity to learn new skills and have gainful employment.

### Our Project SEARCH Story

Through a collaboration between Project SEARCH, Pitt County Schools, Vidant Medical Center (VMC), Vocational Rehabilitation and RHA Health Services, Pitt County has its first Project SEARCH site. Students with disabilities in Pitt County now have the opportunity to learn transferable skills while working in VMC. Project SEARCH Vidant provides:

- A supportive, welcoming work environment
- Daily individualized job coaching
- Daily classroom instruction on employability, independent and life skills
- Real-world, authentic work experiences
- Job placement assistance



### Overview of the program

Young adults with disabilities apply and are selected to participate in the program for one year. Interns spend each day at the host business participating in classroom instruction and gaining hands-on work experience through three, 8-10 week internships. Students are able to explore a variety of career paths, gaining marketable skills and experience in preparation for competitive employment. Internship examples include:

- Foods Services
- Special Care Nursery
- Central Services
- The Office of Audit and Compliance
- The Center for Research and Grants

### Typical Daily Schedule

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 8:30 - 9:30  | Employability Skills Class                             |
| 9:30 -11:45  | Internship Sites                                       |
| 11:45 -12:30 | Lunch  |
| 12:30 - 2:30 | Internship Sites                                       |
| 2:30 - 3:30  | Classroom—Reflection/<br>Planning/Communication Skills |



Project SEARCH is a collaboration between community partners. Each partner provides a different service to make the program successful and ultimately get people with disabilities working in competitive jobs. Partners include a host business, a school, vocational rehabilitation, a community rehabilitation partner, and a long-term support agency.

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“Project SEARCH is doing more than providing valuable work experiences for students. It is massaging and changing corporate culture and the receptivity of workplaces to employ people with disabilities. “

- Diversity World Magazine, November 2006

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