



A collaboration creating innovative solutions for
workforce and career development

The High School Transition Program is a one-year program designed for students with disabilities who are in their last year of high school. The project targets students whose main goal is employment, and who will benefit from career exploration in a healthcare/ business setting.

Program Description



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- 17 Sites in Nebraska
- During the school year, starts in August, ends in May with graduation
- Students with a variety of disabilities
- Last year of HS eligibility (2 adult sites in Nebraska)
- Rotation through unpaid worksite rotations/internships with continual feedback

Our Project SEARCH Partners

- Public School/ESU
- Business Site
- Adult Provider
- Developmental Disabilities



Nebraska Project SEARCH Sites

- Childrens' Hospital Omaha
- Cabela's Omaha
- Nebraska Medicine Omaha
- Paypal Omaha
- Embassy Suites Downtown Omaha
- Embassy Suites LaVista
- Valmont Valley

Nebraska Project SERACH Sites

- Embassy Suites Lincoln
- St. Elizabeth Hospital Lincoln
- Mary Lanning Hospital Hastings
- St. Francis Memorial Hospital Grand Island
- York General Hospital
- Good Samaritan Hospital Kearney
- Faith Regional Hospital Norfolk

Nebraska Project SEARCH Sites

- Walmart Distribution Center North Platte
- Columbus Community Hospital
- Mercy Medical Sioux City

Program Model

- International trademarked and copyrighted program
- Competitive integrated employment
- Collaboration among partner agencies
- Focus on young adults with developmental disabilities
- Effective follow along service to retain employment
- Licensing agreement with Cincinnati Childrens' Hospital medical center

Key Concepts

- Business led one year school-to-work program
- Takes place entirely in the workplace
- Total workplace immersion
- Combination of classroom instruction, career exploration, & hands-on training in worksite rotations
- ★ **Goal of employment**



Program Description



- Students spend school day (at least 6 hours) at business site
- Instructor on site at business
- Job exploration mentors provide supervision and support
- Each student rotates through 3 individualized work rotations during the school year; second half of year focuses on job development.
- Goal of each rotation is for students to learn new skills that are competitive, marketable, and transferable

Employability Skills Curriculum

- Team Building
- Workplace Safety
- Preparing for Employment
- Maintaining Employment
- Financial Literacy
- Health and Wellness
- Technology
- Self-advocacy



Job Placement

- Some participants may be hired at host business
- Others in community
- Placement: shared responsibility of all team members

Project SEARCH Student at Work

<https://youtu.be/6l2MtHS01Tk>

Sam Nelson participated in Project SEARCH at Nebraska Medicine in Omaha during the last year of high school. The work immersion program prepares students for the world of work through a combination of classroom time and internship rotations. After graduating from the program he was hired permanently at the host site. One of his job duties as an Environmental Services Associate is cleaning Isolette® Infant Incubators in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Nebraska Medicine's General Manager Environmental Services Jonathan Nguyen, his supervisor, recognized that Sam's hard work, attention to detail, infectious attitude adds value to the organization daily. Together with the help of Nebraska VR, additional business needs were identified and the duty of washing the Environmental Services cleaning clothes was added to his job. The match resulted in a customized position that met both the employer and employees needs.

Pride, Passion and Purpose



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