**Transitioning Young Adults:** Project SEARCH is a school-to-work program for students with developmental and physical disabilities. Through a total workplace immersion, Project SEARCH facilitates a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration and on-the-job training and support.

**The Goal:** Independent adults working in a competitive environment.

**Internship Opportunities In:**
- Clerical Office Support
- Concierge
- Facilities
- Food & Nutrition
- Housekeeping
- IT Help Desk Support
- Materials Handling & Distribution
- Patient Transport
- Pharmacy Support
- Radiology Support
- Surgical Support

**History:** Project SEARCH is a proven training program established over 15 years ago at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Programs can now be found in hospitals throughout the US and in England and Australia. [www.projectsearch.us](http://www.projectsearch.us)

Unpaid internships give students the opportunity to learn the skills necessary to become gainfully employed upon program completion.

Project SEARCH is a real-life work experience combined with training in employability and independent living skills. The program was established to open doors to individuals who may not otherwise have the opportunity to learn the skills needed to be actively employed.

[www.greatbay.edu/btcsearch](http://www.greatbay.edu/btcsearch)
Applications accepted January & February
A Project SEARCH Day!

Each day begins with a group meeting for one hour in the classroom followed by internship and externship rotations. The classroom is located at Portsmouth Regional Hospital.

The internships are at the hospital and other businesses on the Pease Tradeport in Portsmouth.

Internship Rotations

- Internship rotations last about 10 -12 weeks. Students are matched to the most appropriate job site based on interests and skills.

- Each student interviews for an internship rotation placement.

- A career trainer works with the student until the tasks assigned can be performed independently. The time and instruction are individualized.

- Students are evaluated by the career trainer, the instructor and the department supervisor.

Job Placement is the final goal of the program. Students can be employed at any time during the school year. The team, which includes the student, family, Project SEARCH instructor, affiliated school or agency representative and vocational rehabilitation counselor, meets regularly to discuss progress and issues at work sites. The team assists each student in defining a career goal.

Eligibility Criteria

- 18 – 29 years old
- Ready to transition to employment
- Completed high school credits necessary for graduation
- Able to arrange own transportation
- Eligible for NH VR services
- Display appropriate social, grooming and hygiene skills
- Possess basic communications skills
- Appropriate behavior and social skills in the workplace
- Ability to work in an internship without one-on-one support, only natural supports
- Updated immunizations
- Pass drug screening and criminal background checks

Project SEARCH NH Seacoast Region is located at Portsmouth Regional Hospital and is one of six programs of its kind in NH. Great Bay Community College is the educational provider. Community Partners of Dover, One Sky Community Services of Portsmouth and NH Vocational Rehabilitation collaborate to provide this unique opportunity to the Greater NH Seacoast Region.