Project SEARCH is a program dedicated to providing education and training to young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through an innovative workforce and career development model that benefits the individual, the workplace and community.

Montgomery County has embraced this program by offering three 10-week unpaid internships in collaboration with Project SEARCH. The program is supported by the Ivymount School’s Post High School Program, a community-focused life skills program, and SEEC, a local nonprofit that provides community-based employment support to transitioning youth and adults. The primary goal of this program is to secure competitive employment outcomes for each intern graduate either with Montgomery County or elsewhere in the community.

The unique nature of Project SEARCH is that during the 30-week program year, the interns are supported by a full time, business-based support team of two job coaches provided by SEEC and a full time instructor provided by Ivymount School. The onsite team provides the daily support and infrastructure to the interns and supervisors to ensure overall success in a variety of County Departments and partnering agencies, including Montgomery Parks, City of Gaithersburg, City of Rockville and Montgomery College.

Eleven young adults recently graduated from the third year of Project SEARCH Montgomery. Since its inception, more than half of the participants are employed by the County. In September 2015, a new class of interns will begin the program.

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Click here to apply for Project SEARCH

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