

# Myths and Facts Sheet

*Project SEARCH is a school to work transition program for students with a disability aged 18-21. Students are immersed in the host business August to May learning jobs skills to gain competitive integrated employment at program end.*

**Myth: My student has to be in their final year of transition to apply.**

FACT: While we encourage attending a year of transition, if your student is 18 and ready to work, we welcome their application to apply.

**Myth: My student only wants to work part time, so they can't apply.**

FACT: Project SEARCH is part time too! Project SEARCH is in session 16-24 hours a week depending on where your site is located.

**Myth: My student can't participate because they have mobility issues.**

FACT: Project SEARCH classrooms and hospitals are equipped with accommodations/adaptive technology. Project SEARCH staff will work on adaptations in the work place if the student is accepted.

**Myth: You have to be eligible and enrolled with your Case Management Agency (i.e.- Developmental Pathways, Developmental Disability Resource Center, Rocky Mountain Human Services, TRE, Envision).**

FACT: Some individuals will not be deemed eligible to participate with a CMA (Case Management agency, formally known as a CCB), and that's OK! Project SEARCH is still an option for you!

**Myth: You need to take a bus or Access-a-Ride or you can't participate.**

FACT: We always encourage folks to work toward independent transportation. However, this is not mandated as a requirement to participant in Project SEARCH.

**Myth: Students on a behavioral plan should not apply.**

FACT: Sometimes, the quick pace of the Project SEARCH program is just what an individual who might be struggling in a school environment may need. Project SEARCH recommends teachers applying them anyway, so we can see them in action!

**Myth: Only students who want to work in the medical field should apply.**

FACT: Hospitals are like mini cities, with options to work in Food Service, Facilities, HR/Admin roles, IT and more! These skills learned can translate to jobs anywhere!



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**Myth: You need to be enrolled in a certain district to participate. \*SITE SPECIFIC AND CAN BE REMOVED FOR YOUR SITE\***

FACT: You have the option to enroll into the programs on the Anschutz Medical Campus and Memorial Central Colorado Springs campus.

**Myth: My student can go back to transition, SWAP, or other programs when they complete Project SEARCH.**

FACT: Your student has spent the last 9 months learning job skills with the goal of employment. As they will be getting a job, they will not be able to return to transition programs.

**Myth: My student will be transitioning back to DVR for a new job coach at the end of Project SEARCH.**

FACT: Your student will stay with the job coach you have at Project SEARCH who will help the student find paid employment. Students will be transferred from the job coach under the following conditions:

1. If the student is working outside the hospital and needs continued support beyond three months of support in that job.
  - a. Students will be transitioned to new job coaches who are vetted by the Project SEARCH team
2. The student is successfully placed with DVR and does not need any more services.

**Myth: My student can go to college, or participate in college programs after graduation.**

FACT: Your student has spent the last 9 months learning job skills with the goal of employment. As they will be getting a job they will not be eligible for college programs until a year or more after getting paid employment. UHealth and Children's Hospital Colorado sites both participate in Ascend, which pays for college education and certification. Anyone who is a paid employee of UHealth or Children's Hospital Colorado is eligible for this program.



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