

PROJECT SEARCH A FASTER WAY ▶ FORWARD



OUR LOCATIONS

Luke Air Force Base

M-F 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Luke Air Force Base
56th Mission Support Group
14185 Falcon Street
Luke AFB, AZ 85309

Renaissance Hotel

M-F 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa
9495 Entertainment Blvd.
Glendale AZ 85305

CONTACT

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Exceptional Student Services Director

Work

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▶ West-MEC

WELCOME TO PROJECT SEARCH

Project SEARCH is an international program model empowering young adults with disabilities to make a successful transition from school to adult life. Participants will learn relevant, marketable professional skills.

This unpaid internship is one school year in length and takes place entirely within the host business. The total workplace immersion facilitates the teaching and learning process through continuous feedback and the acquisition of employability and competitive work skills.

The goal for each intern upon completion of the program is competitive employment within the community.

COMPANIES THAT HAVE HIRED PROJECT SEARCH INTERNS

- > dd's Discounts
- > Deer Valley Unified
- > Crumbl Cookies
- > First Watch
- > Fry's
- > Goodwill
- > Harkins Theaters
- > Litchfield Elementary
- > Luke Air Force Base
- > Macy's Warehouse
- > McDonald's
- > Pebble Creek Restaurant
- > Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa
- > SanMar

"I learned about Project SEARCH at a job fair and I wanted to work in a hotel so I figured this would be a great starting place for me. I think I do really well in my role and I just love helping out everybody."

- Eric Whipple, Former Project SEARCH intern
Employed at Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa



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Our employment rate averages over *70% each program year, which is significantly higher than the Arizona rate of 4.9%* of individuals with disabilities working in integrated employment.

(The Power of Disability Employment: The Impact to Arizona's Economy, October 2019)

In a more recent report, individuals specifically served under our state Division of Developmental Disabilities are employed at a rate of 22%.

(Employment First Report, November 2021)

YOUR NEXT STEPS

1. Project SEARCH applications are open from Mid-October through end of July annually.*
2. If interested in applying, visit website to learn more: west-mec.edu/project-search/
3. To apply immediately go to: focus.west-mec.edu/focus/apply/
4. After you apply, interviews will take place and you will be notified if you are selected.
5. If selected you will receive enrollment information.
6. Enrollment process will include mandatory meetings to ensure a successful transition into Project SEARCH.

** Vocational Rehabilitation funding support may be available to qualified individuals. Please note the eligibility process may take several months.*

To apply for Vocational Rehabilitation visit:
des.az.gov/services/employment/rehabilitation-services/vocational-rehabilitation-vr

“Project SEARCH was the perfect segue between high school and becoming a functioning adult in the workplace. The training at Project SEARCH was fantastic.”

- Shelly Sedwick Donald Project SEARCH parent

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