



Project Search at London Borough of Hounslow

Overview

Want to work but need help?

If you are looking for an intensive job coaching programme with progression into paid work and:

- Are aged 18-24 years of age
- Have completed your final year of school education
- Have evidence of learning difficulties or disabilities

Then Project SEARCH could be for you. Project SEARCH is a supported internship programme to help young people with learning difficulties or disabilities secure and keep paid permanent jobs. It is a unique, business-led, one-year, school-to-work programme that takes place entirely at the workplace. Total workplace immersion facilitates a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration, and relevant job-skills training through strategically designed internships.

What topics are covered?

A West Thames College tutor and Action on Disability Skills Trainer will support you through a three part programme of work training via a series of three work placements in different departments at the London Borough of Hounslow, our host organisation. West Thames College and Action on Disability will support you through these internships for three periods of ten weeks over the academic year.

Project SEARCH aims prepare you for competitive employment using the skills you have acquired. You will develop your employability skills such as communication, problem solving and teamwork as well as self-presentation, budgeting and self-promotion.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need to:

- be between 18 and 24 years of age
- have completed your final year of school education
- have evidence of a learning difficulty or disability (LDA, SEN Statement, S139a, Education Health Care Plan, My Plan etc)
- have independent personal hygiene and grooming skills
- have independent daily living skills
- maintain appropriate behaviour and social skills in the workplace
- take direction from a workplace supervisor and change behaviour
- be able to communicate effectively
- be able to use public transport (or agree to participate in travel training if independent travelling skills require development)
- be able to pass Disclosure and Barring Service requirements
- be flexible in your attitude towards finding paid employment, including being willing to travel a reasonable distance in order to secure work.
- **and most of all, have the desire and plan to move into work at the conclusion of the Project Search programme.**

How will I learn?

A typical day at Project SEARCH:

09:00 – 10:00 – Classroom-based activities to build and reinforce the skills needed in the work place working towards a City and Guilds qualification in Employability.

10:00 – 15:00 – Working on your placement with a Council Department, initially supported by Skills Trainer and tutor.

15:00 – 15:30 – Classroom-based reflection time, reviewing what skills you are developing.

Where can I find out more information?

For advice or more details please telephone 020 85836144 or email nicky.bitar@hounslow.gov.uk ..

How do I apply?

Applications should be made to West Thames College.