

2024-25 Toronto District School Board (“TDSB”) Application for student to participate in Project SEARCH Toronto¹

Student (Applicant) First Name:

Student (Applicant) Last Name:

Application Purpose

The purpose of this application form is to obtain general information about a student who is applying to participate in the Project SEARCH Toronto program (“**Project SEARCH Toronto**”). Authorized TDSB staff may contact a student, their parent/guardian, TDSB guidance counselor, resource teacher, or other school staff for any additional information, if required.

TDSB will use the information in this application to determine:

1. Student’s eligibility for participating in Project SEARCH Toronto;
2. Student’s accommodations for the interview day (if any).

TDSB staff try to interview all eligible students/applicants. However, if there are more applicants than available spots for an interview day, TDSB may consider employment experiences and/or information provided by school records and/or references.

The Project SEARCH Toronto goal is to select students/applicants who will be successful in the Project SEARCH Toronto program, and obtain employment upon graduation.

¹Project SEARCH Toronto is a school-to-work transition program for youth who have disabilities and special education needs. Project SEARCH Toronto is powered by partnerships, including the business site hosts (Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital and University Health Network), TDSB as an educational partner, a developmental service partner (Community Living Toronto), Ontario Disability Employment Network, and United Way Greater Toronto. The program takes place entirely at a workplace. Students prepare for employment through a combination of: classroom instruction, hands-on training through 3 co-op rotations, and career exploration and individualized job development. More information about the Project SEARCH Toronto and its partner organizations is available at <http://projectsearchtoronto.ca/psto/>.

Project SEARCH Toronto Selection Process Guidelines

1. Submit the completed application form and a copy of the current Individual Education Plan (“IEP”), if applicable/available, by email, no later than 5:00pm on March 8, 2024, to: Kurt Sompaseuth, Teacher, Secondary-Central, TDSB Student Engagement and Experiential Learning, at bounkeut.sompaseuth@tdsb.on.ca. If you do not wish or are unable to submit the completed application form by email, please contact Kurt Sompaseuth at the above email or 416-710-8952 to arrange an alternate submission method.
2. Please note: Only fully completed applications will be accepted for review and consideration. Completing and submitting the application form does not guarantee admission to Project SEARCH Toronto.
3. TDSB staff will invite eligible candidates to an **interview day** April 2, 2024. This includes a mix of interview and work trial activities.
4. All students/applicants who have submitted their application forms will be notified of the results by May 6, 2024. All successful applicants for Project SEARCH Toronto will be sent preparation details at that time.

Project SEARCH Toronto Eligibility Criteria and Commitment

Students/applicants must:

- Have a primary diagnosis of developmental disability or intellectual disability.
- Be enrolled (or eligible to enrol) at a TDSB school for the 2024-25 school year.
- Be a minimum of 18 years of age at the start of Project SEARCH Toronto (September 2024).
- Be willing to participate in the Project SEARCH Toronto training program, which includes 3 co-op placements at the host hospitals: Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital and Toronto Rehabilitation Institute of University Health Network.
- Be willing and able to participate in the regular program hours for Project SEARCH Toronto, which are the typical school day, 5 days a week.
- Be willing to work at the conclusion of the Project SEARCH Toronto program:
 - A minimum of 20 hours a week; and
 - In a role where relevant training can be acquired through experiences at the host hospitals mentioned above.
- Agree that the 2024-2025 school year will be the last year of high school and the student will not be returning to school upon the completion of the Project SEARCH Toronto program.
- Be able to take direction and instructions from Project SEARCH Toronto coaches/supervisors and adjust behaviour in response to these instructions.
- Maintain appropriate behaviour, social skills and grooming/hygiene in the workplace.
- Be able to communicate effectively (being able to listen to others, as well as successfully relay their own ideas and opinions).

If accepted to Project SEARCH Toronto, students/applicants must:

- Be willing to complete hospital occupational health requirements including but not limited to: providing proof of COVID-19 vaccination as required by hospitals, obtaining up-to-date immunizations including a 2-step tuberculosis test, mask fit testing, etc.
- Obtain a Vulnerable Sector Screening from the Toronto Police Service.
- Participate in travel training in to ensure success using public transit or Wheeltrans (if eligible) independently to travel to workplace, and when available to travel to the Project SEARCH Toronto program location.

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Project SEARCH Toronto Student Applicant Personal Information and Commitment

Student/Applicant Personal Information

STUDENT SURNAME (LAST NAME)	STUDENT FIRST NAME(S)
CURRENT HOME ADDRESS	APARTMENT OR UNIT NUMBER
CITY	POSTAL CODE
CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS (if different from current home address)	APARTMENT OR UNIT NUMBER
CITY	POSTAL CODE
DATE OF BIRTH (YYYY-MM-DD)	HOME PHONE NUMBER
CELL PHONE NUMBER IF ANY	EMAIL

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PREFERED PRONOUNS	NAME OF SCHOOL CURRENTLY ATTENDING

I want to participate in Project SEARCH Toronto because (Complete in your own words and/or person assisting should write the response in the student's own words):

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Parent/Guardian Information

Parent/Guardian 1:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME
PHONE NUMBER (CELL OR HOME)	EMAIL

Parent/Guardian 2:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME
PHONE NUMBER (CELL OR HOME)	EMAIL

References

List two (2) references. At least one (1) reference should be a contact person at the student's current school.

Reference 1:

FULL NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT
PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL

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Reference 2:

FULL NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT
PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL

Future Employment Preferences and Background

1. What is your career of interest? (Complete in your own words and/or person assisting should write the response in the student's own words):

2. Would you prefer full-time or part-time work upon the completion of the Project SEARCH program?

- Full-time (35+ hours/week)
 Part-time (20-34 hours/week)

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3. List up to two (2) jobs or work experiences (paid or volunteer) (Previous experience is not mandatory but may be considered)

NAME OF ORGANIZATION/EMPLOYER 1	
SUPERVISOR FULL NAME	SUPERVISOR CONTACT PHONE NUMBER AND/OR EMAIL
DATES OF EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE	PAID OR UNPAID?
DESCRIBE YOUR JOB DUTIES	

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NAME OF ORGANIZATION/EMPLOYER 2

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SUPERVISOR FULL NAME

SUPERVISOR CONTACT PHONE NUMBER AND/OR EMAIL

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DATES OF EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

PAID OR UNPAID?

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DESCRIBE YOUR JOB DUTIES

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4. Other Information

Please list any kinds of aids/supports or assistive technology that you use (e.g., hearing aid, mobility device, specific cellphone or computer apps):

5. How do you prefer to communicate?

- Verbally
- Sign language
- Alternate method (please specify):

6. Would you or your parent/guardian prefer to work with an interpreter to book and participate in the interview and assessment day?

- Yes - please specify language:
- No

If selected to participate in the interview day, you will participate in a virtual or in-person interview. You will also be required to participate in some activities that are similar to tasks you may be required to complete at work. For example:

- Participate in a team-building game with co-workers;
- Read a short paragraph and write an answer;
- Count and add;
- Follow a checklist to assemble a kit;
- Copy information from paper into a computer.

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7. Will you require any accommodations in order to participate in the interview day?

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STUDENT/APPLICANT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In consideration of my participation in Project SEARCH Toronto, I, by my signature below, and in my capacity as the parent/guardian, hereby (a) give my permission for my child/student, to participate voluntarily in Project SEARCH Toronto; and (b) acknowledge and agree to be bound by all of the terms set forth in this 2024-25 Toronto District School Board ("TDSB") Application for a student participating in Project SEARCH Toronto.

I/We have read and understand the above terms for the participation in Project SEARCH Toronto. I/We understand that by participating in Project SEARCH Toronto, I/we are assuming the risks associated with doing so and that all the information and answers to questions provided herein are complete, true and correct, to the best of our knowledge and belief. I/We further understand that any false statements may result in denial or termination of my child's/student/s participation in Project SEARCH Toronto.

I/We give the Project SEARCH Toronto authorized representatives (e.g. TDSB staff, staff working at the partner organizations as listed on page 1) my/our permission to check the accuracy of the information provided in this application form, including contacting the references. I/We give TDSB staff my/our permission to share the information provided in this application form with authorized staff at the partner organizations involved in Project SEARCH Toronto activities.

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STUDENT APPLICANT FULL NAME

DATE

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PARENT/GUARDIAN FULL NAME

DATE

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FULL NAME OF PERSON WHO ASSISTED WITH APPLICATION

PHONE NUMBER /EMAIL

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