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What do applicants do once they are accepted into the Program?

After receiving an acceptance letter, applicants will be invited to a New Intern Orientation meeting at Spectrum Health Lakeland, St. Joseph that will outline all the requirements (such as drug screening, tuberculosis testing, background check, etc.) and support meetings students interns must attend prior to your first day of work.

Do Program participants need to attend all the support meetings leading up to the first day as a Project SEARCH Intern?

Yes, it is a requirement to attend all support meetings prior to the start of Project SEARCH. It is also required for student interns to complete all required "new employee" mandates (drug screenings, background checks, etc.) as determined necessary by Spectrum Health Lakeland.

What happens at the New Intern Orientation meeting?

During this meeting Interns will be introduced to all the Project SEARCH partners, take a tour of Spectrum Health Lakeland, St. Joseph and walk through the requirements leading up to the first day of work at the hospital.

Why do students need an open case with Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) or the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons?

MRS and BSBP are Project SEARCH partners and to work with MRS or BSBP and receive their services, a case will need to be open. MRS or BSBP will be proactively supporting the student interns throughout their entire Project SEARCH experience.

Are student interns required to complete an Intake process with Riverwood?

Should an intern need to open a case with Riverwood, they would do so after they have started their intern year. An appointment will be made at a time that is convenient for the intern.

Will students work with Disability Network Southwest Michigan throughout this process?

Every intern will have the benefit of receiving an Independent Living Evaluation prior to starting the internship.

Why do student interns need to have a flu shot?

As a Project SEARCH participant, student interns must follow Spectrum Health Lakeland's rules and expectations for their employees.



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Why do student interns need to take and pass a drug test?

As a Project SEARCH participant, student interns must follow Spectrum Health Lakeland's rules and expectations for their employees.

Why do student interns need to complete and pass a background check?

As a Project SEARCH participant, interns must follow Spectrum Health Lakeland's rules and expectations for their employees.

Why do student interns need to have a new IEP meeting prior to starting Project SEARCH?

In order to be in compliance with Project SEARCH program guidelines, all student interns must complete a new IEP prior to the start of their internship experience.

Why do student interns need to attend Lakeland's New Team Member Orientation meeting?

As a Project SEARCH participant, student interns must follow Spectrum Health Lakeland's rules and expectations for their employees.

What happens at Lakeland's New Team Member Orientation?

During the New Team Member Orientation, student interns will learn about Spectrum Health Lakeland's rules and expectations for all employees.

Once the Internship starts, students will receive a student handbook that will outline expectations and procedures relative to their conduct as a Project SEARCH participant. The handbook will discuss dress code, attendance expectations, lunch options, etc.