

Following Completion of the Project SEARCH Program  
FAQ for  
Participant/Employee and State of Michigan Work Sites

Employee (Former Project SEARCH Intern)

1. What do I do if I need help on the job and my case is closed with Michigan Rehabilitation Services or the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons?
  - a. First, speak with your direct supervisor regarding the challenges that you are having.
  - b. If appropriate, direct supervisor may provide contact information for your department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator.
  - c. Regardless of when your case was closed, please contact:
    - i. Michigan Rehabilitation Services  
Lansing District Office: 517.241.5122
    - ii. Bureau of Services for Blind Persons  
Lansing Office: 517.241.1086
2. Who do I contact if I have questions about my social security benefits if my vocational rehabilitation service office is closed?
  - a. Disability Network - <http://www.dncap.org/>, 517.999.2760
  - b. Social Security Administration: 877.512.5944 or [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
  - c. Michigan Protection and Advocacy – <https://www.mpas.org/> , 517.374.4687
3. What do I do if my employer changes some of my job duties and I need further assistance?
  - a. Schedule a time to speak with your immediate supervisor regarding the challenges you are experiencing.
  - b. If you are a State of Michigan employee and the new duties require accommodations, your supervisor may direct you to your department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator.
  - c. Communicate the challenges you are experiencing with your previous vocational rehabilitation counselor and discuss options for re-opening your case.
  - d. Another resource may be: Michigan Protection and Advocacy – <https://www.mpas.org/>, 517.374.4687
4. What local resources exist to assist me with any problems that I may have regarding employment and/or independent living?
  - a. Community Mental Health - <http://www.ceicmh.org>, 517.346.8318
  - b. Disability Network - <http://www.dncap.org/>, 517.999.2760

- c. Michigan Protection and Advocacy – <https://www.mpas.org/>, 517.374.4687
- d. MiWorks - <https://www.camw.org/>, 517.492.5500
- e. Vocational Rehabilitation
  - i. Michigan Rehabilitation Services -  
[https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73971\\_25392\\_40237\\_40244\\_40913\\_41068-140155--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73971_25392_40237_40244_40913_41068-140155--,00.html),  
517.241.5122
  - ii. Bureau of Services for Blind Persons -  
<https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-28313---,00.html>,  
517.241.1086

## Employer (State of Michigan Department)

1. What is the process to obtain assistance after the Project SEARCH intern is employed by the State of Michigan for more than 90 days and future challenges occur in the workplace?
  - a. For accommodation related concerns, the supervisor should engage in the interactive process with the employee and recommend the employee engage with your department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator
  - b. Supervisor may also contact Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) Business Relations Consultant Jonathan Bischoff to expedite support and assistance: [Bischoffj1@michigan.gov](mailto:Bischoffj1@michigan.gov) or 248.234.0557.
2. What assistance is there for on the job accommodations after the Project SEARCH graduate is hired?
  - a. The supervisor should engage the employee in the interactive process and provide the employee with contact information for your department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator
  - b. Other resources include:
    - i. MRS Business Relations Consultant Jonathan Bischoff at [Bischoffj1@michigan.gov](mailto:Bischoffj1@michigan.gov) or 248.234.0557
    - ii. Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) – worksite assessment/analysis for individuals who are legally blind 517.241.1086
3. What do I do if my employee asks me questions regarding other services, such as social security benefits or other assistance?
  - a. Navigate the situation just as you would with any other employee by sharing with them resources that may address their needs outside of work hours:
    - i. Disability Network - <http://www.dncap.org/>, 517.999.2760
    - ii. Michigan Protection and Advocacy – <https://www.mpas.org/>, 517.374.4687
    - iii. Social Security Administration: 877.512.5944 or [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
    - iv. Other assistance: MRS Business Relations Consultant Jonathan Bischoff at [Bischoffj1@michigan.gov](mailto:Bischoffj1@michigan.gov) or 248.234.0557
4. How do I access the Skills Trainer after the individual completes Project SEARCH?
  - a. The Skills Trainers utilized during Project SEARCH internships are purchased service providers and should not be contacted after the intern

completes the program. For assistance regarding challenges with employment, the supervisor should always engage in the interactive process with the employee and/or consult with the department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator. An additional resource may be MRS Business Relations Consultant Jonathan Bischoff to expedite support and assistance: [Bischoffj1@michigan.gov](mailto:Bischoffj1@michigan.gov) or 248.234.0557.