

Ethan, 20, is living with Autism and was referred to URS through the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD), Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. Ethan participated in URS' Summer Youth Work Program at Kenton Ridge High School and National Trails Parks & Recreation in Springfield, Ohio. This program helps high school students with disabilities make the transition from school to post-secondary education, vocational training or integrated employment.

Upon successful completion of the Summer Youth Work Program, Ethan was accepted into URS' Project SEARCH Program at Springfield Regional Medical Center his senior year. Students rotate through jobs in various departments to develop valuable work skills under the supervision of a Job Coach. After completing the program, the Director of the Springfield Regional Medical Center's Engineering Department was extremely impressed with Ethan's progress and encouraged him to apply for an open position. Ethan prepared for his job search with the help of URS and went through the hospital's formal application/interview process. Once he graduated, he was offered a full-time position with benefits, earning more than \$13/hour assisting the Engineering Department with hospital bed maintenance and also gained the advanced technical certification he needed for this position. Ethan also utilized URS' Job Retention Services for three months after he started the new position to ensure he had the supports necessary for success on his exciting new career path.

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Samaria

Samaria began working with URS' Employment Services
Department in January of 2017 while attending the Miami Valley Career
Technology Center. She participated in Job Seeking Skills Training under the direction of a Job Developer to learn the soft skills and learn how to interact with employers in a professional manner. Her interview skills were honed through practice and mock interviewing. Her resume and references were created to reflect the learning and skills she possessed.

With the use of her new skills and professional resume, Samaria began participating in job development activities. After five months in the program, she secured a position at Steak 'n Shake. In May of this year, Samaria graduated with a certificate in hospitality services and completed her ServSafe Certification. She is excited to begin her new career and appreciates the training and guidance she received from URS!

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