

DiKembe (Mississippi)



DiKembe works in the food delivery program on The University of Southern Mississippi campus, a job he obtained through participation in Project SEARCH Southern Miss. Project SEARCH was a program of the Institute for Disability Studies and was funded through the MS Council on Developmental Disabilities.

When he entered Project SEARCH, DiKembe had an interest in a food service position, but he did not want just any job. “It was hard to find a job that was not a ‘typical’ fast food, entry level position,” he says. Project SEARCH provided him with the opportunity to intern at the food mart on campus. After just one internship rotation, he was hired.

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DiKembe loves his job. “I enjoy talking to other people and getting to know other people,” he says. “It is fun to get a paycheck. It feels good to be working and not sitting at home all day.”

Working is important to DiKembe. “It is important to have money to pay bills with,” he says. “It feels good to pay my own bills and not to ask others for money.”

