



Ontario Youth Opportunities Strategy Summer Jobs for Youth 2011

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR EMPLOYERS

How is the program funded?

The Summer Jobs for Youth Program is funded by the Ontario government as part of its Youth Opportunities Strategy and is managed by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. The federal government is also providing some financial support this year. This is the sixth year of the government's strategy to help young people faced with challenges achieve individual success and build stronger, safer communities. There is absolutely no cost to you as an employer to participate in the Summer Jobs for Youth Program. This year, the government is implementing this initiative in Hastings County for the third year.

What is the program all about?

Summer Jobs for Youth is designed to assist youth 15 to 18 years of age acquire workplace skills through summer employment. It's a win-win for employers and young people. Youth receive job readiness training and support, paid employment placements from July to August, and post-employment support. As an employer, you benefit through a fully subsidized summer employment program, and help young people in our community gain valuable work experience.

What are the components of the program?

The three main program components are:

- One week of pre-employment training and support by Youthab/Career Edge tailored to the needs of the youth in individual communities (life skills, employability skills, job search techniques, resume writing, goal setting, interview coaching, workplace orientation and health and safety).
- Six week job placement during July and August.
- Post-employment support for the youth provided by Youthab/Career Edge.

What do I need to participate in the program?

To register for the program, employers are required to have WSIB or alternative workplace safety insurance along with third party liability insurance. They will also be asked to:

- Sign a placement contract with Youthab/Career Edge
- Assign each participant meaningful tasks and promote a positive learning environment
- Provide proper training, supervision and support
- Allow program staff (Youth Worker Leaders) to visit participants for the purpose of monitoring

- Prepare a time sheet for each participant outlining the hours of work
- Comply with Youthab/Career Edge protocols for workplace health and safety
- Comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, the Employment Standards Act and all other applicable federal and provincial legislation, regulations and any other relevant standards

When would the youth be available for work?

Youth would be available for a six-week work placement during the months of July and August, 2011.

Where are the youth from?

The Summer Jobs for Youth program focuses on youth from 19 designated communities across Ontario. Hastings County is one of these communities.

How many hours are youth allowed to work?

- The maximum hours of paid work each week is 35 and there is no allowance for overtime
- The program does not compensate participants for the lunch breaks
- Only original time sheets are accepted by payroll
- Time sheets are collected by program staff bi-weekly
- Both workplace supervisor and youth must sign timesheets. Where errors are made they should be initialed and dated by the appropriate individual

How much are the youth paid?

Youth participating in the Summer Jobs for Youth program are paid \$10.25 per hour. Individual employers may choose to top up wages for program participants.

Please note: the program does not pay for lunch breaks.

Why should I participate?

We strongly encourage you to participate in this program. You receive young, ambitious and enthusiastic summer workers at no cost, and you can fully utilize the following services and benefits:

- Access to a pool of trainable candidates
- Free recruitment services
- Free employer/candidate matching services

Your involvement will also have a positive impact on young people and our community.

I am interested in participating in the program, what do I need to do?

Contact your nearest Youthab/Career Edge office or the program coordinator for an employer information form.

Amanda Bolyea
Summer Jobs for Youth Coordinator
613-969-0830 ext 245
amandab@youthab.ca