

Teens working in Missouri

The first job for a teenager is very important. This job is their first taste of the working world. It is where they learn the importance of punctuality, honesty in the workforce, responsibility, commitment, and much more. The Missouri Division of Labor works with employees, schools, and parents to encourage working youth and to make sure that where they work is safe.

There are child labor laws that ensure safety to the youth working. If a youth that is 14 or 15 wants to work during the school year, they have to get a work certificate from the public school superintendent's office in the district that they reside in. The hours in which they are allowed to work are between 7a.m. and 7p.m. during the school year and between 7a.m and 9p.m from June 1 through Labor Day. These youth can not work more than three hours a day on school days and not more than eight hours a day on non school days. There are also certain jobs that they are not allowed to have such as cooking, driving, using tools, being around anything considered toxic and some construction work. If someone under the age of 14 wants to work there are stricter guidelines to where they can work and the site. For more information go to www.teensworksafe.com and the Missouri Department of Labor.

Some of the jobs teens love to work at in the Ozark region are through the Parks Board doing score keeping and concessions. Also if they like to sell, working in Retail is a great place to start. There they can learn the keys to successful sales: how to offer the customer what they want; listening skills to learn what the customer wants; know what they are selling; setting goals; and learning what it takes to go out there and make sales! The Retail industry works with students needing flexible work schedules!

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