

“For Safety’s Sake - Do Something”

Protecting Temporary Workers



Many young workers are looking for a summer job. Did you know that, according to federal laws, young workers are limited in the types of jobs and number of hours they can work. States also have rules, and employers must follow both.

For instance, employees under 18 are prohibited from:

- working on roofing projects.
- working on demolition projects.
- working on excavation operations.
- using power-driven circular saws, band saws, guillotine shears, chain saws, reciprocating saws, wood chippers, and abrasive cutting discs.

These are only a few of youth worker limitations. For a more comprehensive list, visit: <http://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/whd/flsa/docs/haznonag.asp>

Whether temporary or permanent, all workers always have a right to a safe and healthy workplace. Did you know that temporary workers are at increased risk of work-related injury and illness. Every year, thousands of temporary workers are injured within the first couple of weeks of being on the job. Often times it is because they are inexperienced and may not receive proper training. It is the employers responsibility to maintain a safe and healthy work environment, including providing proper training and safety equipment to all workers, even temporary workers. If you are working along side temporary workers that have not been properly trained on safety procedures, equipment use, or hazard recognition, your safety may be at risk, too.

Young workers and temporary workers get injured or sick on the job for many reasons, including:

In General

- Unsafe equipment
- Inadequate safety training
- Inadequate supervision
- Dangerous work that is prohibited for youth under 18
- Pressure to work faster
- Stressful conditions

Typical Construction Work

- Falls
- Machines and tools
- Hazardous materials
- Confined space
- Electricity
- Struck-by
- Vehicle back-over
- Noise

Typical Outdoor Work

- Exposure to the sun
- Heat
- Landscaping
- Pesticides and chemicals
- Machinery and vehicles
- Electricity
- Heavy lifting
- Noise

For more information, visit:

Resources for Young Worker Safety - <https://www.osha.gov/youngworkers/resources.html>

Department of Labor - Youth Workers in Construction - <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/summerjobs/index.html>

Protecting Temporary Workers - https://www.osha.gov/temp_workers/index.html