



Indiana

Department of Labor

Advancing the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace

MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., GOVERNOR
Lori A. Torres, Commissioner

402 West Washington Street, Room W195
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2751

Phone: (317) 232-2655
Fax: (317) 233-3790

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Marc Lotter
Phone: (317) 232-3396
E-mail: media@dol.in.gov

Prohibited and Hazardous Occupations for Teen Workers Updated by the United States Department of Labor

INDIANAPOLIS (June 21, 2010) - The Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL) reminds Hoosier employers, parents, minors and school administrators that the United States Department of Labor (U.S. DOL) has updated many definitions of Prohibited and Hazardous Occupations for teen workers. These changes are defined in the federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

While some additions to the Prohibited and Hazardous Occupations were made in the 1990's, including the addition of driving restrictions for teens, the recent changes now reflect updated technology and situations otherwise not covered by the nearly 30-year old Child Labor regulations.

The IDOL's Bureau of Child Labor enforces the restrictions on Prohibited and Hazardous Occupations as defined by the Secretary of the U.S. DOL. Director of Child Labor Kenneth Boucher said, "These changes are pretty substantial and will better define what jobs minors can and cannot do." Some of the new definitions include making it illegal for 14 or 15 year-olds to participate in peddling or holding signs, waving banners or wearing costumes to advertise a business when not directly in front of their employer's business establishment. The duties for 15 year-old lifeguards are precisely defined, a new classification for forest firefighting has been added for 16 and 17 year-olds and the definitions of powered equipment for all minors have been detailed.

To provide information and guidance on these changes, the Indiana Bureau of Child Labor has established a webpage entitled "Prohibited and Hazardous Occupations." The webpage details the occupations prohibited for 14 and 15 year olds and those restricted for 16 and 17 year-old because of hazards. The website is available online at www.in.gov/dol/childlabor.htm.

For clarification on the changes to the federal FLSA and the Prohibited and Hazardous Occupations, please contact the U.S. DOL's Indianapolis office at (317) 226-6801. For questions concerning the interpretation of Indiana Child Labor laws, please review the Frequently Asked Questions online at www.in.gov/dol/2398.htm or contact the Indiana Bureau of Child Labor by e-mail at childlabor@dol.in.gov.

About the Indiana Department of Labor:

The mission of the Indiana Department of Labor is to advance the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace. In order to make significant strides, we emphasize both enforcement and compliance assistance by employers. www.in.gov/dol.

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