



STEPHANIE
RAWLINGS-BLAKE
MAYOR

BALTIMORE CITY SUMMER JOBS OVERVIEW

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YOUTHWORKS

YouthWorks is Baltimore City's summer jobs program for residents between the ages of 14 and 21. Each year through YouthWorks, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development connects thousands of teens and young adults to meaningful summer work experiences where they gain basic workforce readiness and career-specific skills.

- Participants are placed in positions with nonprofits, community and faith-based groups, and city and state government employers throughout Baltimore.
- They are scheduled to work five hours each day (excluding lunch), five days a week, for a total of 25 hours per week, and are paid minimum wage (\$8.75 per hour in summer 2016).
- There will be two, five-week YouthWorks programs in 2016. The first one will run June 27 – July 29, and the second July 11 – August 12.
- It costs \$1,500 to fund one young person in a 2016 YouthWorks summer job.
- Wages are paid by the City of Baltimore with funding from City general funds and the State of Maryland, as well as philanthropic foundations, companies, and individuals.
- The Hire One Youth campaign is an opportunity for Baltimore City's private sector employers to help shape the future workforce by interviewing and hiring at least one 16- to 21-year-old. Hire One Youth employers span a variety of industries, including health care, hospitality/tourism, finance, construction, the arts, IT, and environmental/green jobs.



YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

- According to U.S. Department of Labor Statistics data, the national unemployment rate stands at 5.1% -- but for 20-24-year-olds it's approximately 10%, and for 16-19-year-olds it's more than 16%.



- In Baltimore City, overall unemployment is 8%, while the unemployment rate for 20-24-year-olds is 18.8%, and for 16-19-year-olds is 35.6%.

- Total number of youth ages 15-24 in Baltimore City (from American Community Survey/Census estimates for 2013):
 - 20-24 = 54,541 (8.8% of the City's population)
 - 15-19 = 41,432 (6.7% of the City's population)

RESEARCH

- “Summer and year-round work-based learning programs (with real work for pay) can help vulnerable youth bridge the gap between preparation and employer demand, improve educational outcomes, contribute to communities and family budgets, connect with positive role models, and build work-based competencies.” (*Practical Advice Guide, The Center for Youth and Communities, Brandeis University, 2014*)
- Northeastern University researchers have demonstrated that early work experience (such as that gained through a part-time summer job) is a powerful predictor of future success and earnings in the labor market – raising earnings over a person’s lifetime by 10-12 percent. (*“Youth and Work” Kids Count Policy Report, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2012*)
- “Privileged youth are often able to connect to the workforce through informal networks maintained by their parents and formal networks created by the schools that these youth attend. For Opportunity Youth [youth who are not in school and not working], however, such networks often do not exist.” (*“Collective Impact for Opportunity Youth,” FSG, 2012*)
- “The job-market recovery is leaving teenagers behind—especially those from low-income and minority backgrounds.



“Less than a third of 16- to 19-year-olds had jobs this summer, essentially unchanged from a year ago, according to Labor Department data released Tuesday [August 20, 2013]. Before the recession, more than 40% of teens had summer jobs. One in four teens who tried to find work failed to get a job, far above the 7.4% unemployment rate for the broader population. Retailers, fast-food restaurants and other traditional employers of this cohort have stepped up hiring in recent months.

“But with the ranks of unemployed including many better-qualified candidates, companies have little incentive to hire inexperienced teenagers. With work still scarce, college students and even college graduates are settling for jobs once done mostly by teens, while at the same time more retirees are taking part-time jobs.” (*Wall Street Journal, August 21, 2013*)



The Baltimore City Mayor’s Office of Employment Development (MOED) is the primary contact for Baltimore City’s summer and year-round youth employment efforts. To contact MOED regarding summer jobs: summerjobs@oedworks.com or 410-396-JOBS (5627). Visit www.oedworks.com. On Facebook: [Youthworks-Baltimore](https://www.facebook.com/Youthworks-Baltimore)