



County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES



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EFFECTIVE 2015/2016 LA COUNTY YOUTH JOBS PROGRAM CalWORKs Questions & Answers

The Los Angeles County Youth Jobs (LACYJ) Program through the “Earn and Learn” model provides CalWORKs youth ages 14-18 (19 year olds enrolled in the CalLearn program) with meaningful work experience. During their participation in the program, youth will:

- Participate for up to 25 hours of paid Personal Enrichment Training
- Participate in approximately 100 hours of paid work experience
- Earn the minimum wage; and
- Get the opportunity to network with potential employers

1 Who is eligible to the Earn and Learn CalWORKs Program?

Youth ages 14-18 (19 years old enrolled in the Cal Learn program), who reside in Los Angeles County receiving CalWORKs through the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services, who are authorized to work in the United States, and have a valid work permit from their school.

2 Will my earnings from this Program impact my parent's CalWORKs benefit grant?

Earnings from the LACYJ Program for youth under 19 years of age are exempt (will not count) in determining the CalWORKs grant if the youth:

- is aided as a child under their parent or caretaker's case;
- is enrolled in school full-time; or
- has a school schedule that is equal to part-time curriculum and is not employed full-time (less than 173 hours per month).

Note: Earnings will count toward the CalWORKs grant for:

- Youth who do not meet the criteria listed above;
- Youth who have their own CalWORKs case and are not under a parent case; and 19 year olds

Do I or do my parents have to report my earnings from the Earn & Learn Program to the County? If so, how do we report earnings to the County?

3 Yes, all earnings must be reported whether exempt or not. Earnings must be reported during the Redetermination interview and/or on the Semi-Annual Eligibility Status Report (SAR-7) in order for the Eligibility Worker to assess the earnings. Participants must clearly indicate on the SAR 7 that the earnings received are relevant to the LACYJ Program. You may ask your LACYJ Program case manager to provide you a letter indicating your earnings.

When and where can I apply?

4 You may apply anytime during the year in person at your nearest participating agency as shown below or online. Keep in mind that space is limited and is filled on a first come-first serve basis beginning the month of July of each year.

What is the website address and how do I apply online?

5 The website address is <https://youthjobs.css.lacounty.gov>. You may complete an Interest Form online and provide all your contact information so that the participating agencies to contact you but completing an Interest Form does not mean that you have a pending application. You have to visit in person one of the participating agencies in order to begin your enrollment process.

Do I need a work permit if I am a high school student?

6 Yes, if you are still attending school and are not 18 yet, you need a work permit from your school's administration office.

What if I am not 18 yet, but have a high school diploma, do I still need a work permit?

7 No. If you have graduated from high school and you are not 18 yet, you don't need a work permit, but you need to provide your diploma or General Education Development (GED) certificate during enrollment.

What if the school I attend is closed in the summer, where should I go to get my work permit?

8 You can get the work permit from your local Unified School District's Administration Office.

What documents will I need to bring with me in order to enroll?

9 In order to participate in the LACYJ Program, you need to provide documents proving your eligibility and right to work in the U.S. You will likely need to take the following documents with you when you go to the Youth Employment agency to enroll: Photo ID (California or school ID); Social Security Card and Work Permit from your school district, if you are under 18 and have not graduated.