



Youth @ Work: Talking Safety

**Robin Dewey, Chris Miara and Diane Bush,
National Young Worker Safety Resource Center**

Labor Occupational Health Program, U.C. Berkeley
Education Development Center, Inc., Newton, MA

Why be Concerned About Youth at Work?

Many youth are injured on the job:

250,000 <18-year-olds injured/year in the US

84,000 <18-year-olds to the ER for work injuries

70 <17 + 90 18-19 year-olds die each year

Young workers are injured at a higher rate than adult workers.

Why are Young Workers Injured at High Rates?



Why are Young Workers Injured at High Rates?

There are hazards on the job

Lack of experience

Developmental factors

Lack of training and supervision.



What Are the Basic Occupational Safety and Health Skills?

Young Workers should be able to:

Identify hazards in any workplace

Know how hazards can be controlled

Know what to do in an emergency

Know their rights and responsibilities

Speak up effectively when a problem arises.

The Youth @ Work: Talking Safety Curriculum

Teaches the basic skills

Uses highly participatory activities such as games, small group hands-on activities, and role plays

Includes adapted activities for teaching youth with cognitive or learning disabilities

Evaluated in schools by NIOSH

State-specific editions on the NIOSH website.

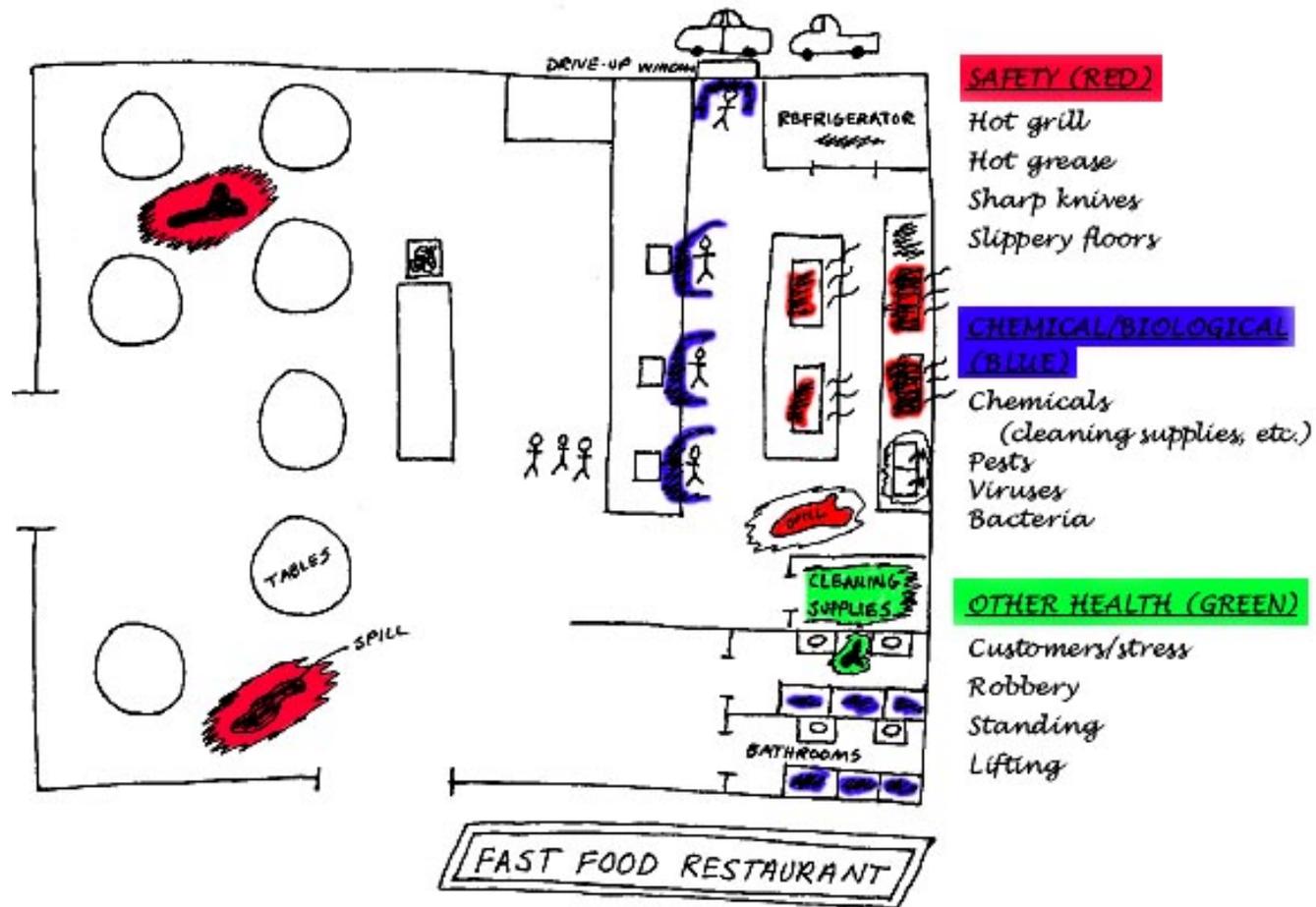
Hazard Mapping Activity

Students will draw maps in color.

Red = Safety Hazards

Blue = Chemical and Biological Hazards

Green = Other Health Hazards



What Health and Safety Hazards Do I See?

Illustrated Workplaces

Overhead #8

Find the Hazards: Fast Food



What Health and Safety Hazards Do I See?

Illustrated Workplaces

Overhead #9

Find the Hazards: Grocery Store



What Health and Safety Hazards Do I See?

Illustrated Workplaces



What Health and Safety Hazards Do I See?

Illustrated Workplaces

Overhead #11

Find the Hazards: Gas Station



\$25,000 Safety Pyramid Game



How Can Hazards be Reduced or Eliminated?

\$25,000 Safety Pyramid Game

Overhead #15

Jamie's Story

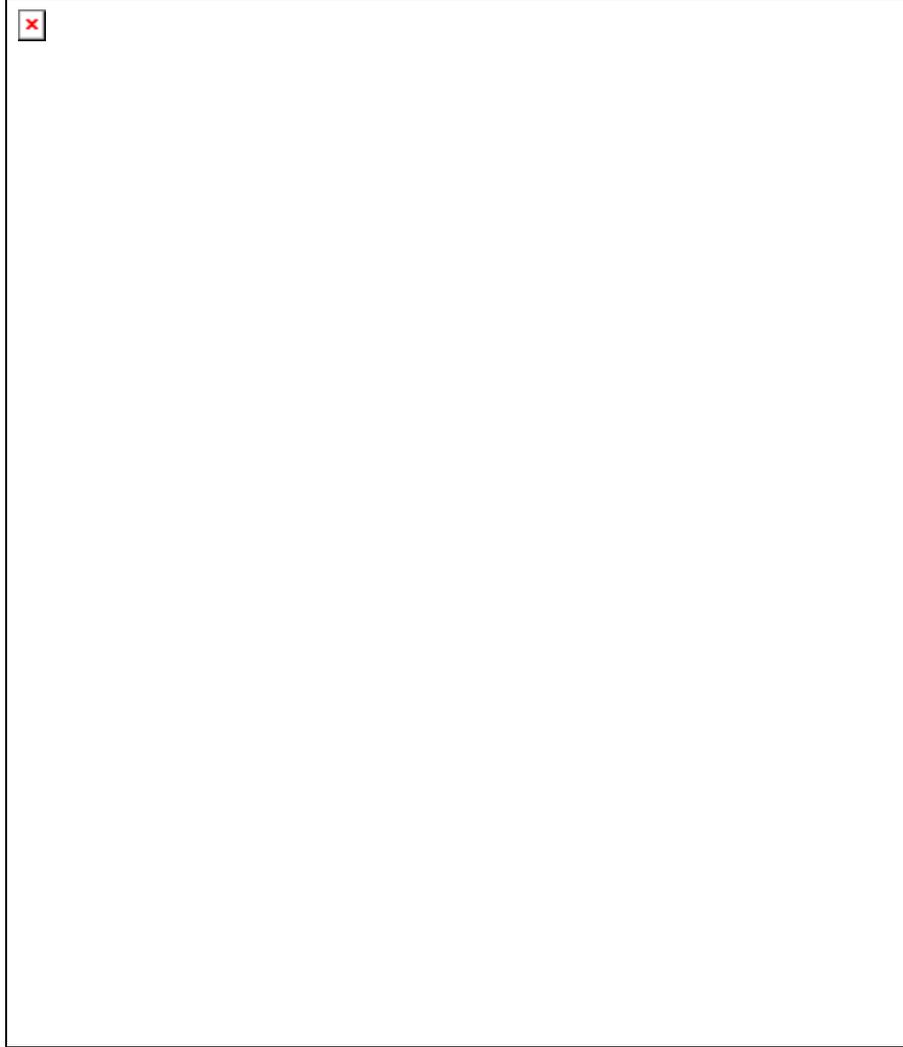


Job: Hospital dishwasher

Injury: Dishwashing chemical splashed in eye

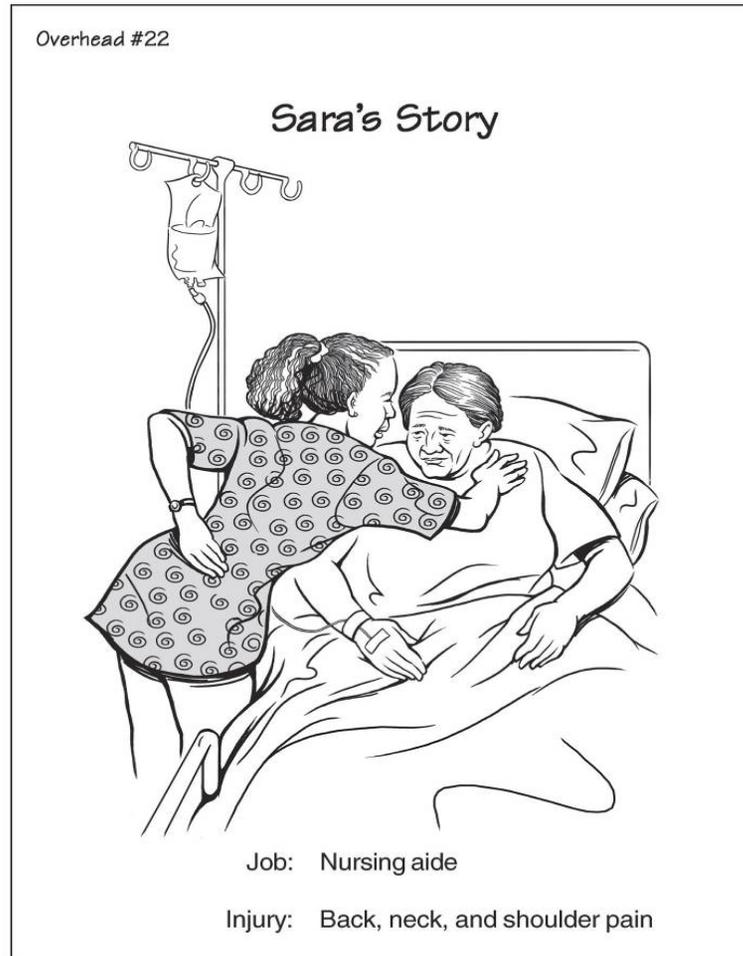
How Can Hazards be Reduced or Eliminated?

\$25,000 Safety Pyramid Game



How Can Hazards be Reduced or Eliminated?

\$25,000 Safety Pyramid Game



How Can Hazards be Reduced or Eliminated?

\$25,000 Safety Pyramid Game

Overhead #19

James' Story



Job: City public works employee
Injury: Fainted due to heat

What Should I Do in an Emergency?

Disaster Blaster Game

Emergencies in the
News activity



What are My Rights and Responsibilities?

Jeopardy Game

	Rights on the Job	Dangerous Work & Work Permits	Hours for Teens & Working Safely	Job Injuries & Getting Help
\$100	True or False? Your employer can't punish you for reporting a safety problem. <i>True.</i>	How old do you have to be to drive a forklift? <i>18 years old.</i>	If you're 14 or 15, how many hours can you work on a school day? <i>3 hours.</i>	True or False? You can sue your employer if you're hurt on the job. <i>False.</i>
\$200	What's the minimum wage in California? <i>\$6.75 an hour.</i>	Name one kind of machinery you can't use if you're under 18. <i>Power equipment (meat slicer, saw, bakery machine, box crusher).</i>	If you're 14 or 15, how late can you work on a school night? <i>7pm.</i>	True or False? Your boss can punish you for getting hurt on the job. <i>False—it's against the law for your boss to punish or fire you for a job-related injury.</i>
\$300	Name two rights you have if you get hurt on the job. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Payment for medical care.</i> • <i>May also get lost wages.</i> 	If you're under 18 and still in school, what do you need to get before you take a job? <i>A work permit.</i>	If you're 14 or 15, how many hours can you work in a school week? <i>18 hours.</i>	What's the name of the state agency that handles health and safety complaints? <i>Cal/OSHA.</i>
\$400	Name two health and safety protections your employer must provide on the job. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Safe and healthy workplace.</i> • <i>Safety training.</i> • <i>Protective clothing.</i> • <i>Payment for medical care if injured.</i> 	Name one kind of work you can't do if you're 14 or 15. <i>Baking, cooking, dry cleaning / laundry, using ladder or scaffold, construction, loading and unloading trucks, rail cars, or conveyors.</i>	If you're 16 or 17, how late can you work on a school night? <i>10pm.</i>	What agency enforces the laws about work hours and wages in California? <i>Division of Labor Standards Enforcement.</i>
\$500	Name two rights all workers have on the job. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To report safety problems.</i> • <i>To work without racial or sexual harassment.</i> • <i>To join a union.</i> 	Name one kind of construction work you can't do if you're under 18. <i>Wrecking, demolition, excavation, or roofing.</i>	Name two things you can do to prevent a job injury. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Report unsafe conditions.</i> • <i>Get safety training.</i> • <i>Follow safety rules.</i> 	Name two things you should do if you get hurt on the job. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tell your boss.</i> • <i>Get medical treatment.</i> • <i>Fill out a claim form.</i>

What are My Rights and Responsibilities?

Labor Law BINGO Game

Student Handout #13



Labor Law Bingo: Board #1

4 hours 	 7 PM	18 years old 	Box crusher	18 hours 
The employer	Medical treatment	Labor Standards Enforcement	Fair Employment and Housing	3 hours 
77,000 teens	\$6.75 an hour	FREE SPACE	Safe and healthy workplace	 Driving a vehicle
16 years old 	Your school 	 Load/unload trucks	 9 PM	Follow safety rules
Whenever you start a new job	8 hours 	 12:30 AM	 10 PM	 7 AM

How Do I Speak Up Effectively When There is a Problem?

Elena's Story – Role Play

Mini-Skits



Building Partnerships to Protect Youth

Who Can Play a Role in Protecting Young Workers?

Staff from schools, workforce development agencies, transition programs for youth with disabilities, state government, community organizations, apprenticeship programs, etc.

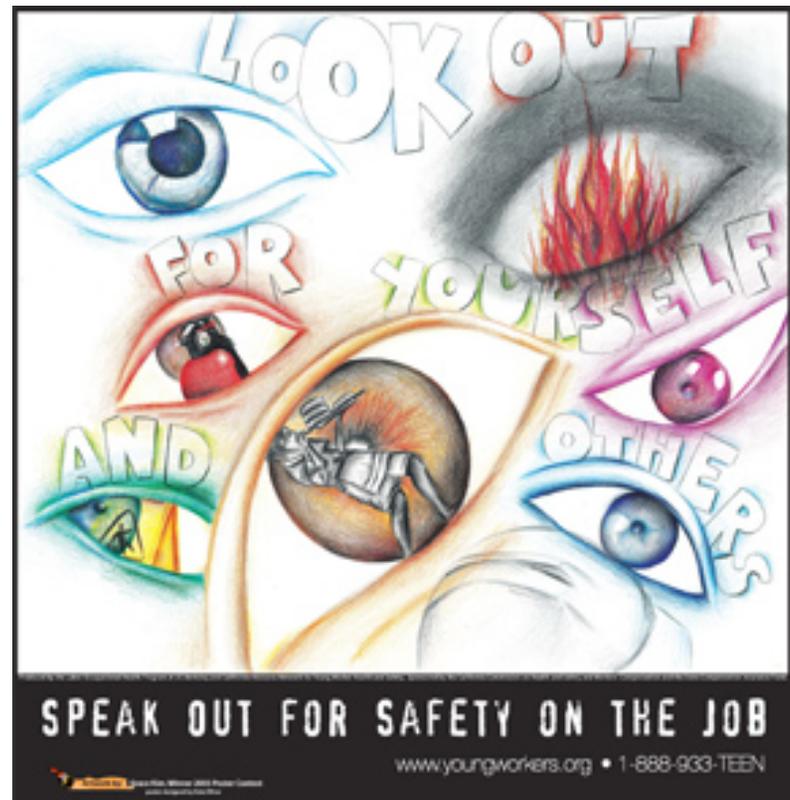
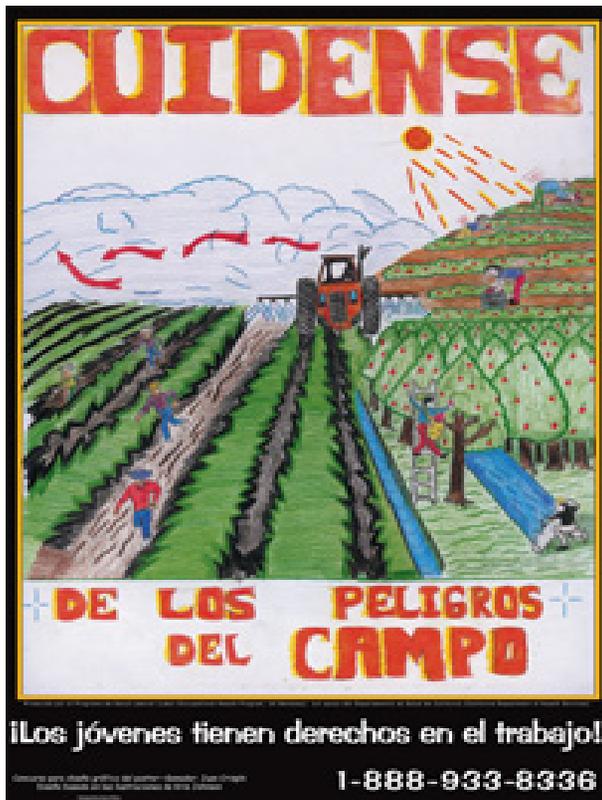
Parents

Employers

Youth themselves

Building Partnerships to Protect Youth – A Few Ideas

Outreach to Teens – Poster Contests



Building Partnerships to Protect Youth

Young Worker Leadership Academies



Building Partnerships to Protect Youth

Outreach to Employers

- Provide information to employers about labor laws
- Discuss on-site health and safety training for youth
- Report and follow-up on unsafe conditions.



MA's Forklift Sticker

Building Partnerships to Protect Youth

Outreach to Employers

Facts for Employers



Safer Jobs for Teens

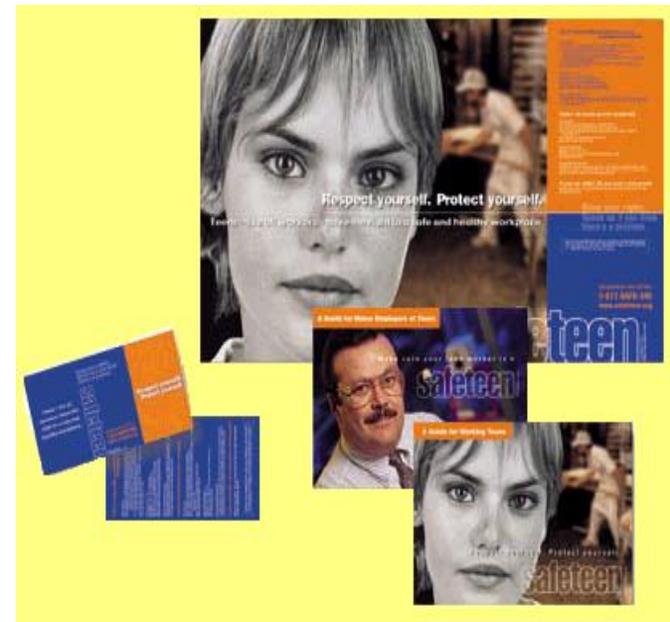
“Most teens are enthusiastic and eager to learn. They make my work a lot of fun. But teens can be injured on the job when they don’t receive adequate safety training and supervision.”
—Scott Silver
Operations Manager, Oakland Zoo

“Having young people at work gives us a chance to remind everybody that safety is important. We have really focused on our safety program. We haven’t had any serious injuries this year, and we’re saving over 25% in workers’ comp costs!”
—Michele Clark-Clough
The Youth Employment Partnership

Labor Occupational Health Program
University of California, Berkeley

2001

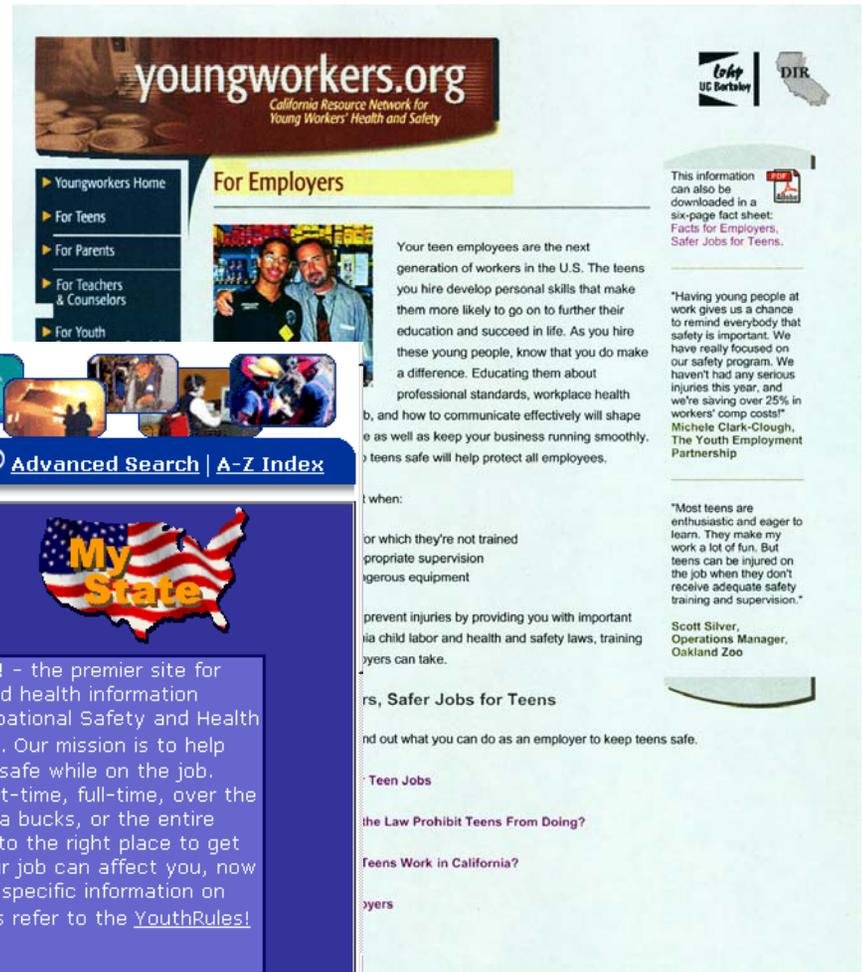
CA’s Employer Factsheet



Maine’s SAFETEEEN Employer Kit

Resources for More Information

Websites



youngworkers.org
California Resource Network for Young Workers' Health and Safety

- ▶ Youngworkers Home
- ▶ For Teens
- ▶ For Parents
- ▶ For Teachers & Counselors
- ▶ For Youth

For Employers

Your teen employees are the next generation of workers in the U.S. The teens you hire develop personal skills that make them more likely to go on to further their education and succeed in life. As you hire these young people, know that you do make a difference. Educating them about professional standards, workplace health and safety, and how to communicate effectively will shape them as well as keep your business running smoothly. Making sure your teen employees are safe will help protect all employees.

This information can also be downloaded in a six-page fact sheet: [Facts for Employers, Safer Jobs for Teens.](#)

"Having young people at work gives us a chance to remind everybody that safety is important. We have really focused on our safety program. We haven't had any serious injuries this year, and we're saving over 25% in workers' comp costs!"
Michele Clark-Clough, The Youth Employment Partnership

When:

or which they're not trained
appropriate supervision
adequate equipment

prevent injuries by providing you with important
via child labor and health and safety laws, training
employers can take.

ers, **Safer Jobs for Teens**

nd out what you can do as an employer to keep teens safe.

Teen Jobs

the Law Prohibit Teens From Doing?

Teens Work in California?

Employers



U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety & Health Administration
www.osha.gov

Search [GO](#) [Advanced Search](#) | [A-Z Index](#)



TEENWORKERS QUESTIONS?

My State

FOR TEEN WORKERS	FOR EDUCATORS	<p>Great! You found us! - the premier site for teen worker safety and health information provided by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Our mission is to help you stay healthy and safe while on the job. Whether you work part-time, full-time, over the summer for a few extra bucks, or the entire year, you have come to the right place to get the scoop on how your job can affect you, now and in the future. For specific information on federal and state rules refer to the YouthRules! Website.</p>
		
FOR PARENTS	FOR EMPLOYERS	
		

Resources for More Information

National Young Worker Resource Center Offices

Robin Dewey and Diane Bush
Labor Occupational Health Program
University of California Berkeley
2223 Fulton Street, 4th floor, Berkeley, CA 94720-5120
tel: 510-642-5507; fax: 510-643-5698
rdewey@berkeley.edu
dbush@berkeley.edu

Christine Miara
Education Development Center, Inc.
55 Chapel Street, Newton, MA 02458
tel: 617-618-2238 cmiara@edc.org

www.youngworkers.org