

Child Labor Work Permit

HOW TO OBTAIN A WORK PERMIT:

Here is the link: [Work Permits](#)

The Department of Workforce Development's Equal Rights Division has developed a new online work permit application tool. The Division carefully considered the lessons of the past few years, when pandemic restrictions made it nearly impossible for some minors to obtain work permits and decided to pursue an online application that would be available to the parents of minors 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from any computer, tablet, smartphone, or similar device. The application improves accessibility for minors who live in rural or underserved areas and eliminates the difficult logistics involved in working parents having to take off work to make a trip to a work permit office.

The application is live now. A parent can access the site [using these instructions](#). Payment is made directly to the department through the application, using a credit or debit card or by ACH direct withdrawal. Once the permit application process is complete, the Department mails a paper copy of the permit directly to the employer.

In addition, the Equal Rights Division have reorganized our employment of minors web pages. The information you need is linked at the bottom of [this page](#), including a [guide to hazardous and prohibited work](#), the [hours and times of day restrictions for minors](#), and links to the appropriate [statutes](#) and [codes](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Equal Rights Division by email at [workpermits \[at\] dwd.wisconsin.gov](mailto:workpermits@dwd.wisconsin.gov) ().

WORK PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYMENT OF MINORS

- A work permit is required before anyone under the age of 16 is allowed to work in any job with the exception of agriculture or domestic service work.
- Employers must have a work permit on file for the minor being employed before they may allow the minor to begin work.
- 16- and 17-year-old minors do NOT need to obtain a work permit prior to beginning work. Work permits will not be issued for minors ages 16 or 17.
 - State law prohibits the use of minors to perform hazardous work. Prohibited employment provisions still apply to work that 16- and 17-year-old minors can be employed to perform.
- This law makes no changes to the requirements for minors younger than 16. Minors younger than 16 must obtain a work permit prior to beginning work, unless an exception applies.
 - There are no changes to the maximum hours or times of days that minors younger than 16 may work, or the types of work that minors younger than 16 may perform.