Hours and Times of Day Minors May Work in Wisconsin

State and federal laws do not limit the hours that minors 16 years of age or over may work, except that they may not be employed or permitted to work during hours of required school attendance under Wis. Stat. § 118.15.

State and federal laws also permit minors under 16 to work up to seven days per week in the delivery of newspapers and agriculture. In most other types of labor, minors under 16 may only work six days a week.

Most employers must obtain work permits for minors before permitting them to work. For further information, see the Wisconsin Employment of Minors Guide (ERD-4758-P).

| Maximum Hours of Work for 14 & 15 year-old minors | After Labor Day through May 31 | June 1 through Labor Day |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Daily Hours | | |
| Non-School Days | 8 hours | 8 hours |
| School Days | 3 hours | 3 hours |
| Weekly Hours | | |
| Non-School Weeks | 40 hours | 40 hours |
| School Weeks | 18 hours | 18 hours |
| Permitted Time of Day | 7am-7pm | 7am-9pm |

Employers subject to both federal and state laws must comply with the more stringent section of the two laws.

State child labor laws prohibit work during times that minors are required to be in school, except for students participating in work experience and career exploration programs operated by the school.

Minors under 16 years of age are limited to the maximum hours and time of day restrictions even though they may work for more than one employer during the same day or week.

Minors under 14 years of age are allowed to work in certain occupations (e.g., street trades, agriculture, and work in school lunch programs. See the Wisconsin Employment of Minors Guide, ERD -4758-P, for more detail). These minors are subject to the same hourly and time of day restrictions as minors who are 14 or 15 years of age.

Minors under 18 years of age may not work more than 6 consecutive hours without having a 30-minute, duty free meal period.

Minors 16 & 17 years of age who are employed after 11:00 pm must have 8 hours of rest between the end of one shift and the start of the next shift.

Minimum Wage for minors is \$7.25 per hour. Employers may pay an "Opportunity Wage" of \$5.90 per hour for the first 90 days of employment. On the 91st day, the wage must increase to \$7.25 per hour.

For further information about the federal child labor laws call (608) 441-5221, or write to U.S. Department of Labor, Wage & Hour, 740 Regent Street, Suite 102, Madison, WI 53715.

For further information about the state child labor laws, call the Equal Rights Division in Madison (608) 266-6860 or Milwaukee (414) 227-4384.

DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - EQUAL RIGHTS DIVISION PO BOX 8928 MADISON WI 53708 Telephone: (608) 266-6860 TTY: (608) 264-8752

Website: http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/

The Department of Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format or need it translated to another language, please contact us.

Work Permit Requirements

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.

The Labor Standards Bureau enforces employment of minors laws that establish maximum hours of work, time of day restrictions, and prohibited employment for minors 11 through 17 years of age.

Where can I get a work permit?

Work permits are issued at various locations throughout the state. You may apply for a work permit at your school office or call (608) 266-6860 for more information on where in your area you may apply for a work permit.

How to obtain a work permit

To obtain a work permit, either the minor alone or the minor and a parent must visit the permit office, taking with them:

- The minor's birth certificate or other proof of age:
 - A driver's license
 - A photo ID card issued by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation
 - A duly attested birth certificate
 - A verified baptismal certificate
- The minor's social security card
- A letter from the employer expressing intent to hire, on the employer's letterhead, describing:
 - The minor's job duties
 - The hours the minor will be working
- A written letter by the minor's parent(s) expressing their consent
- A \$10 permit fee (the employer must reimburse the \$10 to the minor no later than the date of the minor's first paycheck)