

DCF Youth Employment Opportunity (YEO) Collaborative Program

In partnership with the

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL)

Program Overview- Since 2011 the Department of Children and Families (DCF) has partnered with the Department of Labor (DOL) to allow DCF involved youth to participate in the Youth Employment Opportunity Program.

The Department currently has an agreement (MOA) with the CT State Department of Labor, to allow at least 50 designated slots in each region for DCF involved youth to participate in this statewide run program. DOL operates this program in partnership with the Workforce Development Boards (WDBS), and selected local community organizations to provide supervision, workforce readiness training, skill development, and job placement at various employment sites in the retail, automotive, healthcare, and social service sectors. Through a six-week summer portion as well as a year-round employment opportunity. In addition, there will be enhanced efforts to offer paid peer mentoring component for participants matched to the skill level required of these positions. As well as enhanced efforts to provide stipends for career awareness, job shadowing, leadership development, pre-apprentice and classroom training. Information about each Workforce Development Board can be found at the below links.

- [Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board](#) (Eastern region)
- [Capital Workforce Partners](#) (Hartford, New Britain and North Central region)
- [Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board](#) (Waterbury, Torrington, Danbury and Northwest region)
- [Workforce Alliance](#) (New Haven and South Central region)
- [The WorkPlace, Inc.](#) (Bridgeport, Stamford and Southwest region)

Eligibility Criteria This is a state-wide program open to all CT youth with residency and other qualifying criteria used dependent on the area in which youth resides. Youth eligible for the DCF YEO Program must:

- **Be between the ages of 15-23**
- **DCF open case at time of referral**
- **Meets income and other eligibility requirements as per the WDB.**

*Please note: **No work experience needed.** However, youth who choose to participate in the summer youth program will have to meet criteria, fill out application, and take part in an interview process dependent on agency's requirements.*

**refer to website for more details: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/rwdb/dir-rwdb.htm>*

Refer a Youth!

1. Ensure youth meets eligibility requirements
2. Youth should then complete application within their region via: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/rwdb/dir-rwdb.htm> and await provider's update, as well as, send provider any other additional intake documents.

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