

# YOUTH EMPLOYMENT – FOR PARTICIPANTS



Research shows that a sizable percentage of total income in some Montana families is generated by pre-20 youth. The Youth Employment program's primary goal is to provide work readiness and training opportunities to better prepare Montana's youth for access to employment and long-term economic self-sufficiency.

**Who is eligible?** The Youth Employment Program is for low-income youth, ages 14-24, who possesses one or more of the following barriers:

- Tests below a 9th grade level in math or reading;
- School drop out;
- Homeless runaway, foster child or aged-out of foster care;
- Pregnant or parenting;
- Criminal history;
- Youth with a physical, mental, emotional or learning disability;
- No vocational/employment goals and has below average grades;
- Little, no, or spotty work experience or;
- Who has been fired from a job in the last six calendar months.

**What services will I receive?** Below is a listing of all activities that may be provided by the Youth Program. You may be eligible to receive one or more of these services:

- Tutoring, study skills training and instruction leading to high school completion, including dropout prevention strategies;
- Alternative secondary school offerings;
- Summer employment opportunities directly linked to academic and occupational learning;
- Paid and unpaid work experiences, including internships and job shadowing;
- Occupational skills training;
- Leadership development opportunities, which may include such activities as positive social behavior and soft skills, decision making, team work and other activities;
- Supportive services;
- Adult mentoring for the duration of at least twelve (12) months, which may occur both during and after program participation;
- Follow-up services;
- Comprehensive guidance and counseling, as well as referrals to counseling, as appropriate to the needs of the individual youth.
- Career exploration;
- Life Skills classes



**What is expected of me?** Actively participate. Be on time. Speak up if you get in a jam. Strive for positive references.

**Where can I expect to work?** We make every attempt to match work sites with your skill level and interest as well as encourage you to learn something new. Through the generosity of our work experience sites, we have provided youth work opportunities in the fields of mechanics, health care, clerical, social services, animal care and construction, just to name a few.

**How do I apply?** Visit [www.hrdc7.org](http://www.hrdc7.org) to download the application, call 406-247-4732, or come by the Youth Program offices at 3116 1st Ave North, Billings.

## For more information

Web: [www.hrdc7.org](http://www.hrdc7.org)  
Phone: 406-247-4732 or 800-433-1411  
Email: [info@hrdc7.org](mailto:info@hrdc7.org)

District 7 HRDC is a private nonprofit Community Action Agency dedicated to the promotion of self-sufficiency and alleviation of poverty. HRDC offers many resources for you, for your family, and for your home, all in the name of helping people move forward. To learn more, visit [www.hrdc7.org](http://www.hrdc7.org) or call 406-247-4732 for more information about how we can help you.