

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Employment Ontario network

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**SUBJECT** Ministry of Labour's Young Workers Portal

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The purpose of this bulletin is to advise Employment Ontario (EO) service providers who work with youth about the tools and resources available on the [Ministry of Labour's Young Workers portal](#).

#### **WHAT IS HAPPENING:**

Employment Ontario service providers deliver employment and training programs that give young Ontarians the skills and training they need to succeed. This work includes providing youth with information about their rights and responsibilities on the job. From workplace safety to employment standards, it is critical that young people are able to access resources and supports that will allow them to advocate on their own behalf in the workplace.

The [Ministry of Labour's Young Workers portal](#) contains a number of resources that service providers can use to promote safe and fair workplace practices by increasing awareness amongst young workers on their workplace rights and responsibilities. Resources include, but are not limited to:

- Educational videos (i.e. illegal wage deductions, heat stress, etc.)
- Tools and calculators designed to help employers and employees understand their rights and obligations under the Employment Standards Act, 2000 (ESA)
- Information covering a variety of topics related to the ESA (e.g. minimum wage, termination of employment, etc.) and about how the ESA may apply in particular sector (e.g. to retail workers)
- Questions and answers about young workers' workplace rights
- Tip sheets for youth, parents and employers on workplace health and safety

We strongly encourage service providers to review the resources and tools made available on the [Ministry of Labour's Young Workers portal](#) and to direct young clients to the portal as appropriate.

Young workers may want to be aware about the [Occupational Health and Safety Awareness and Training regulation \(O. Reg 297/13\)](#). This regulation requires all workers and supervisors in Ontario to successfully [complete basic awareness training](#).

To support Ontarians, the Ministry of Labour created a free suite of awareness training materials in multiple formats and multiple languages including: employer guides, workbooks, and eLearning modules for workers and supervisors. These materials can be accessed from the Ministry of Labour website, or ordered in print via ServiceOntario Publications.

Employers may choose to use the free materials developed by the Ministry of Labour, or they may develop their own training, or use third-party training so long as the training that is completed by workers and supervisors complies with the regulation.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to helping youth improve their skills, find work and succeed in their path to rewarding employment.