



Summer Job Central 2012

New brochure helps students find job hunting tips and summer job leads

by Lola Lucas

The Illinois Department of Employment Security recently released Summer Job Central 2012, a brochure that highlights job resources for teens and young adults looking for summer jobs.

Summer Job Central, accessed at www.ides.illinois.gov/sjc2012, features links to websites offering job search tips as well as job and internship leads for settings such as camps, ranches, amusement parks and government agencies throughout the United States. It also exposes students to international job opportunities. One

of the newest entries in the Summer Job Central brochure is the web link for U.S. Department of Labor's new "Summer Jobs +" initiative, aimed at providing thousands of summer jobs for youth, including low-income youth.

The Summer Jobs + website quotes President Obama stating the significance of the program: "America's young people face record unemployment, and we need to do everything we can to make sure they've got the opportunity to earn the skills and a work ethic that come with a job. It's important for their future and for America's."

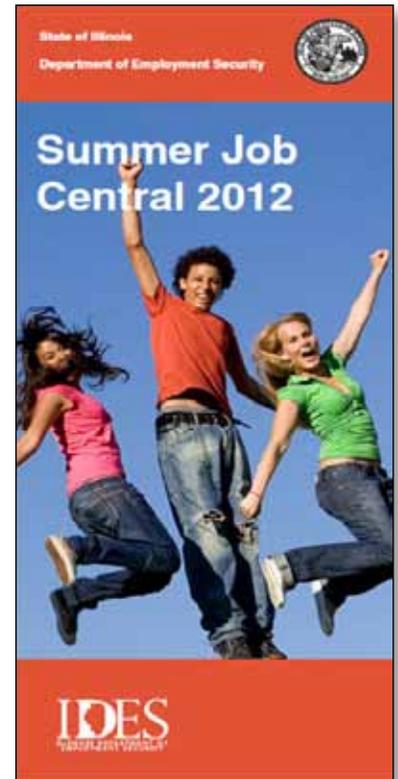
Even more so than last year, those wanting a summer job will need to act quickly. Managers intend to hire summer employees on an earlier timetable. According to a survey of 1,000 hiring managers conducted by employment network Snagajob, 13 percent of managers filled their positions in February, and 79 percent of summer hiring will be completed by the end of May. Average wages will remain about \$10.90 an hour.

Using effective job search strategies can help teens increase their chances of finding a job. The 2012 Summer Job Central brochure features a new link offering job search tips. In the “Where can I find a job?” section of the brochure is a link described as a “three part video series and classroom guide for job search, interviewing, etc.” A classroom guide helps

teachers prepare students for their roles in the workforce. Another new section in the brochure is devoted to resources that help employers hire teens.

Summer employment is a way for high school students to explore different work settings, and gain valuable skills, contacts and work habits. It also influences students to be more focused in school and motivates them to think about their future careers. Students can plan their futures better if they have a clear sense of career direction.

To help with career planning, IDES offers an online career planning resource called the Career Information System or CIS. The department also offers CIS Junior for middle school and junior high students and ReNEW for adult job seekers. All three of these resources are available at www.ides.illinois.gov/careerinfo.



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Summer Job Central offers web links to:

- Job leads
- Internships
- Job search tips
- Teacher’s guide

Access Summer Job Central:

- Download copies at www.ides.illinois.gov/sjc2012.
- Educators can request multiple printed copies by emailing des.icrn@illinois.gov.

For more Career Information visit the IDES website at www.ides.illinois.gov/careerinfo.

