

December 2014

It's Your Job 2015 Student Video Contest

The Ministry of Labour is accepting entries to the 2014/15 "It's Your Job" video contest. All Ontario secondary school students are eligible. Get your creative students ready to develop an original video that can be used in social media to illustrate the importance of working safely on the job. Students and their schools can win cash prizes and provincial and national recognition! The deadline to submit videos is **March 27, 2015**.

To learn more about the contest, please visit: Ontario.ca/VideoContest

See, share and show the videos to your students! Check out our 2013/14 winners for some inspiration:
<http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/contest/winners2014.php>

Links

Ministry of Labour teacher safety resource website:
<http://www.livesafeworksmart.net>

Subscribe to the Live Safe! Work Smart! newsletter:
<http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/resources/subscribe/index.php>

Read previous editions of the newsletter:
<http://www.livesafeworksmart.net/english/index.htm>

New Legislation to Protect Co-op Students

On November 20, the Ontario legislature changed the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* (OSHA) so that it now **applies to unpaid co-op students, to learners who are participating in a work placement** approved by a school board or post-secondary institution and to other unpaid trainees at a workplace. Additional changes to other statutes now offer further protections to vulnerable workers, including those who earn minimum wage, do temporary work, and work as temporary foreign workers.

Unpaid students, learners and trainees are now defined as "workers" under the OHSA, and have the same rights and duties as the paid workers they work alongside. To learn more, please visit:
<http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/worker.php>

Ministry of Labour Awareness Training Program Suite

As of July 1, 2014, the *Occupational Health and Safety Awareness and Training Regulation* (O. Reg. 297/13) requires every employer to ensure that their workers and supervisors under Ontario's *Occupational Health and Safety Act* complete basic occupational health and safety awareness training. Now that unpaid co-op students and other unpaid learners are defined as "workers" under the Act, they must complete a worker awareness training program. Supervisors are also responsible for completing the supervisor awareness training program so that they are aware of the requirements.

The Ministry of Labour offers free awareness training program eLearning modules with printed certificates and hard copy workbooks available for download on its website. Free training modules are available for both workers and supervisors, and take approximately one hour to complete.

To learn more about the regulation, training requirements, and our free online training program suite, please visit:
Ontario.ca/LearnToWorkSafe