



workforce
SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Companies Invited to Participate in Youth Hiring Event and Career Fair

Vancouver, Wash. (Feb. 14, 2019) – Companies, especially those that hire teenagers, can connect with approximately 600 young adults at the 3rd annual Youth Employment Summit (YES) being held March 19 at the Clark County Event Center.

YES is an opportunity for companies to engage with their future workforce, build awareness of their company and promote job opportunities. It provides individuals, ages 16-24, an opportunity to explore careers in our region's high-growth, high-demand industries and find first jobs. Students from school districts and youth programs in Clark and Cowlitz counties will be attending.

Providing youth with opportunities to work and gain job skills is vital for our local economy and crucial to meeting business workforce needs.

Companies can participate in three ways:

1. **Hire a student.** Businesses in any industry are needed to hire young adults (especially 16-18-year-olds) for first jobs. Work experience is critical to a young person's future success in the workforce.
2. **Host a table.** Health care, tech, manufacturing and construction companies can host a table to share company information, including types of education/training needed and open jobs, answer questions and provide hands-on demonstrations or activities. *Assistance is available for companies that need help designing an activity.*
3. **Be a sponsor.** Business support ensures as many young people as possible have an opportunity to participate.

Companies can register for free at <https://bit.ly/2BArYwi>.

For sponsorship opportunities and more information, contact Darcy Hoffman, Director of Business Services at Workforce Southwest Washington, at dhoffman@workforcesw.org or 360-608-4949.

Led by Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW), YES is a collaboration of Partners in Careers, WorkSource, Columbia River Economic Development Council, Cowlitz Economic Development Council, Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce, SW WA Stem Network, nConnect, Lakeside Industries, LiUNA, Goodwill, Northwest Laborers-Employers Training Trust Fund and the District Council of Laborers.

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Serving businesses, job seekers and youth in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.