

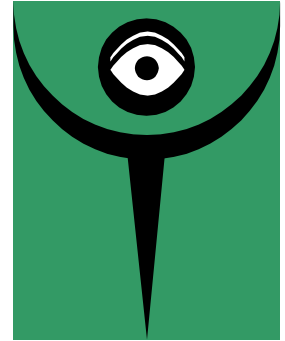


YOUTH INITIATIVE 2007

Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

MERCER EYES

Empowering Youth Employability Skills



EMPLOYERS ...

- Are you frustrated with not being able to find motivated youth to fill your part-time / seasonal vacancies?
- Do you want the support and assistance of the County of Mercer in recruiting youth eager and ready to work?
- Do you want to help shape our future employees?

If you answered “yes”, then Mercer EYES is perfect for you!

- This youth initiative will provide your company the opportunity to hire pre-screened employees, currently in their sophomore and junior year in a Mercer County high school.
- Pre-employment training provided to youth will include interviewing, dressing for success, professionalism, and job retention skills.
- Every company will have the support of a “counselor” who will visit the worksite a minimum of once per week, and be accessible via phone as needed.
- Subsidized wages is available if the company is unable to pay the youth.

All we ask is that you:

- Provide the youth meaningful work tasks, geared at exploring your career industry and help them further identify their interests; and
- Provide an on-site mentor to discuss youth’s experiences on the job and provide constructive feedback.

The Program will operate from July 9, 2007 through August 31, 2007

**If you would like to become an EYES Business Partner, please contact
Maribel Duarte at (609) 989-6035 or via email at mduarte@mercercounty.org**



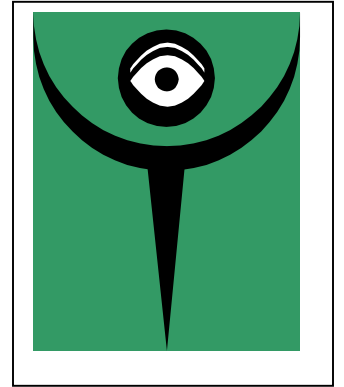
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The Mercer EYES Youth Initiative is funded by Mercer County through the Office of Economic Opportunity. Youth will receive pre-employment training followed by an 8-week work internship component. Year-round activities will include career exploration, life skills instruction, guest speakers, field trips, continued employability skills training, and assistance with working towards post-graduation goals.

Criteria

- Live in Mercer County *and*
- Attend a Mercer County high school *and*
- Currently a sophomore (10th grade) or junior (11th grade) in high school
- There are no economic criteria

Applications

- Available through school's career/guidance office
- Deadline is Friday, April 20th

Selection

- Selection will be based on school counselor recommendations and pre-selection interviews to assess job/career interest and job matching appropriateness

Program Dates

- Pre-employment Workshops June 25, 2007-July 6, 2007
 - o Paid for attendance
- Work Internship: July 9, 2007 – August 31, 2007
 - o Paid \$7.15 per hour for a maximum of 35 hours weekly

The Program will operate from July 9, 2007 through August 31, 2007

If you would like more information on the Mercer Eyes Program please contact Maribel Duarte at (609) 989-6035 or via email at mduarte@mercercounty.org