

## Employment Standards for 16- and 17-Year-Olds in Nonagricultural Employment

### The Hazardous Occupations Orders (HOs) for Nonagricultural Employment

These Orders are published in Subpart E of Part 570 of Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

The FLSA provides a minimum age of 18 years for any nonagricultural occupations which the Secretary of Labor “shall find and by order declare” to be particularly hazardous for 16- and 17-year-old persons, or detrimental to their health and well-being. This minimum age applies even when the minor is employed by the parent or person standing in place of the parent.

The seventeen HOs apply either on an industry basis, specifying the occupations in the industry that are not permitted, or an occupational basis irrespective of the industry in which found. Some of the HOs contain limited exemptions.

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| HO 1  | Manufacturing and storing of explosives.   | HO 10* | Operating power-driven meat processing equipment, including <b>meat slicers and other food slicers</b> , in retail establishments (such as grocery stores, restaurants kitchens and delis) and wholesale establishments, and most occupations in meat and poultry slaughtering, packing, processing, or rendering. |
| HO 2  | Motor-vehicle driving and outside helper on a motor vehicle.   | HO 11  | Power-driven bakery machines including vertical dough or batter mixers.  |
| HO 3  | Coal mining.   | HO 12* | Power-driven balers, compactors, and paper processing machines.  |
| HO 4  | Occupations in forest fire fighting, forest fire prevention, timber tract operations, forestry service, logging, and sawmilling. | HO 13  | Manufacturing bricks, tile, and kindred products.  |
| HO 5* | Power-driven woodworking machines.   | HO 14* | Power-driven circular saws, bandsaws, chain saws, guillotine shears, wood chippers, and abrasive cutting discs.  |
| HO 6  | Exposure to radioactive substances.  | HO 15  | Wrecking, demolition, and shipbreaking operations.   |
| HO 7  | Power-driven hoisting apparatus, including forklifts.  | HO 16* | Roofing operations and all work on or about a roof.  |
| HO 8* | Power-driven metal-forming, punching, and shearing machines.   | HO 17* | Excavation operations.   |
| HO 9  | Mining, other than coal mining.  |        |  |

*\*These HOs provide limited exemptions for 16- and 17-year-olds who are bona-fide student-learners and apprentices.*

## HO 1 - Manufacturing or Storage Occupations Involving Explosives

The following occupations in or about plants or establishments manufacturing or storing explosives or articles containing explosive components are prohibited:

1. All occupations in or about any plant or establishment (other than retail establishments or plants or establishments of the type described in subparagraph 2. below) manufacturing or storing explosives or articles containing explosive components *except* where the occupation is performed in a “nonexplosives area” as defined in subparagraph 3. below.
2. The following occupations in or about any plant or establishment manufacturing or storing small arms ammunition not exceeding .60 caliber in size, shotgun shells, or blasting caps when manufactured or stored in conjunction with the manufacture of small arms ammunition:
  - a. All occupations involved in the manufacturing, mixing, transporting, or handling of explosive compounds in the manufacture of small arms ammunition and all other occupations requiring the performance of any duties in the explosives area in which explosive compounds are manufactured or mixed.
  - b. All occupations involving the manufacturing, transporting, or handling of primers and all other occupations requiring the performance of any duties in the same building in which primers are manufactured.
  - c. All occupations involved in the priming of cartridges and all other occupations requiring the performance of any duties in the same workroom in which rimfire cartridges are primed.
  - d. All occupations involved in the plate loading of cartridges and in the operation of automatic loading machines.
  - e. All occupations involved in the loading, inspecting, packing, shipping, and storage of blasting caps.

### Definitions

1. The term *plant or establishment manufacturing or storing explosives or articles containing explosive components* means the land with all the buildings and other structures thereon used in connection with the manufacturing or processing or storing of explosives or articles containing explosive components.
2. The terms *explosives and articles containing explosive components* mean and include ammunition, black powder, blasting caps, fireworks, high explosives, primers, smokeless powder, and all explosives and explosive materials as defined in 18 U.S.C. 841(c)-(f) and the implementing regulations at 27 CFR Part 555. The terms included any chemical compound, mixture, or device, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion, as well as all goods identified in the most recent list of explosive materials published by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Department of Justice. This list may be found through the ATF website at <http://www.atf.gov>.
3. An area meeting the following criteria shall be deemed a *nonexplosives area*:
  - a. None of the work performed in the area involves the handling or use of explosives;
  - b. The area is separated from the explosives area by a distance not less than that prescribed in the American Table of Distances for the protection of inhabited buildings;
  - c. The area is separated from the explosives area by a fence or is otherwise located so that it constitutes a definite designated area; and
  - d. Satisfactory controls have been established to prevent employees under 18 years of age within the area from entering any area in or about the plant which does not meet criteria a through c.

protective of minors as those listed in the chart on page 21. The ANSI standards for scrap paper balers and paper box compactors govern the manufacture and modification of the equipment, the operation and maintenance of the equipment, and employee training.

2. *Baler that is designed or used to process materials other than paper* means a powered machine designed or used to compress materials other than paper and cardboard boxes, with or without binding, to a density or form that will support handling and transportation as a material unit without requiring a disposable or reusable container.
3. *Compactor that is designed or used to process materials other than paper* means a powered machine that remains stationary during operation, designed or used to compact refuse other than paper or cardboard boxes into a detachable or integral container or into a transfer vehicle.
4. *Operating or assisting to operate* means all work that involves starting or stopping a machine covered by this section, placing materials into or removing materials from a machine, including clearing a machine of jammed materials, paper, or cardboard, or any other work directly involved in operating the machine. The term does not include the stacking of materials by an employee in an area nearby or adjacent to the machine where such employee does not place the materials into the machine.
5. *Paper box compactor* means a powered machine that remains stationary during operation, used to compact refuse, including paper boxes, into a detachable or integral container or into a transfer vehicle.
6. *Paper products machine* means all power-driven machines used in (1) remanufacturing or converting paper or pulp into a finished product, including preparing such materials for recycling; or (2) preparing such materials for disposal. The term applies to such machines whether they are used in establishments that manufacture converted paper or pulp products, or in any other type of manufacturing or nonmanufacturing establishment. The term also applies to those machines which, in addition to paper products, process other material for disposal.
7. *Scrap paper baler* means a powered machine used to compress paper and possibly other solid waste, with or without binding, to a density or form that will support handling and transportation as a material unit without requiring a disposable or reusable container.

## HO 13 - Occupations Involved in the Manufacture of Brick, Tile, and Kindred Products

The following occupations involved in the manufacture of clay construction products and of silica refractory products are prohibited:

1. All work in or about establishments in which clay construction products are manufactured, *except*
  - a. work in storage and shipping;
  - b. work in offices, laboratories, and storerooms; and
  - c. work in the drying departments of plants manufacturing sewer pipe.
2. All work in or about establishments in which silica brick or other silica refractories are manufactured *except* work in offices.
3. Nothing in this section shall be construed as permitting employment of minors in any occupations prohibited by any other HO issued by the Secretary of Labor.

### Definitions

1. The term *clay construction products* shall mean the following clay products: brick, hollow structural tile, sewer pipe and kindred products, refractories, and other clay products such as architectural terra cotta, glazed structural tile, roofing tile, stove lining, chimney pipes and tops, wall coping, and draintile. The term shall not include the following non-structural-bearing clay products: ceramic floor and wall tile, mosaic tile, glazed and enameled tile, faience, and similar tile, nor shall the term include non-clay construction products such as sand-lime brick, glass brick, or non-clay refractories.
2. The term *silica brick or other silica refractories* shall mean refractory products produced from raw materials containing free silica as their main constituent.

## Special Provisions Permitting the Employment of Certain Minors in Places of Business that Use Machinery to Process Wood Products

Section 13(c)(7) of the FLSA permits the employment of certain minors between the ages of 14 and 18, inside and outside of places of businesses where machinery is used to process wood products. This exemption applies only to a minor who is:

1. exempt from compulsory school attendance beyond the eighth grade either by statute or judicial order, and,
2. is supervised in the work place by an adult relative or adult member of the same religious sect or division as the minor.

Although a minor meeting these requirements maybe employed inside and outside of places of businesses that use machinery to process wood products—activities normally prohibited by Child Labor Regulation No. 3 and HO 4—the minor is still prohibited from operating, or assisting to operate, any power-driven woodworking machines. This prohibition includes the starting and stopping of the machines and the feeding of materials into the machines as well as the off-bearing of materials from the machines.

Such minors are also prohibited from cleaning, oiling, setting-up, adjusting and maintaining the machines. Minors 14 and 15 years of age must be employed in compliance with the remaining occupations and hours standards of CL Regulation No. 3. In addition, such minors must be protected from wood particles or other flying debris within the workplace by a barrier appropriate to the potential hazard of such wood particles or flying debris or by maintaining a sufficient distance from machinery in operation. The minors are also required to use personal protective equipment to prevent exposure to excessive levels of noise and sawdust.

## Exemptions from Certain HOs for Apprentices and Student-Learners

Hazardous Occupations Orders Nos. 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 17 contain exemptions for 16- and 17-year-old apprentices and student-learners provided they are employed under the following conditions:

### Apprentices:

1. the apprentice is employed in a craft recognized as an apprenticeable trade;
2. the work of the apprentice in the occupations declared particularly hazardous is incidental to his or her training;
3. such work is intermittent and for short periods of time and is under the direct and close supervision of a journeyman as a necessary part of such apprentice training; and
4. the apprentice is registered by the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training of the U. S. Department of Labor as employed in accordance with the standards established by that Bureau, or is registered by a state agency as employed in accordance with the standards of the state apprenticeship agency recognized by the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, or is employed under a written apprenticeship agreement and conditions which are found by the Secretary of Labor to conform substantially with such federal or state standards.

### Student-Learners:

1. the student-learner is enrolled in a course of study and training in a cooperative vocational training program under a recognized state or local educational authority or in a course of study in a substantially similar program conducted by a private school; and
2. such student-learner is employed under a written agreement which provides:
  - a. that the work of the student-learner in the occupations declared particularly hazardous shall be incidental to the training,
  - b. that such work shall be intermittent and for short periods of time, and under the direct and close supervision of a qualified and experienced person,
  - c. that safety instruction shall be given by the school and correlated by the employer with on-the-job training, and
  - d. that a schedule of organized and progressive work processes to be performed on the job shall have been prepared.