



YOUTHWORKS

YouthWorks is a comprehensive professional development program designed to provide employment opportunities and life skills training that help participants gain work experience and strengthen their employability as they transition into the workforce.

WHO IS YOUTHWORKS?

YouthWorks is dedicated to providing professional development to underrepresented communities in Berkeley.

- This includes community members who speak English as a second language, those involved in the foster care or juvenile justice systems, young parents, individuals with disabilities, and those receiving social services or who possess a 504 or Individualized Education Program (IEP) plan.
- **YouthWorks** contracts with various community-based organizations to help recruit participants and host internships.
- **YouthWorks**, NOT the worksite, is the Employer of Record and pays all wages, payroll, and workers' compensation expenses. **Interns will be paid the minimum wage of \$19.18 per hour (effective 07/01/25).**



AT A GLANCE

- **300 participants** in YouthWorks per calendar year
- **Internship length** varies from 6-8 weeks over summer and 10-13 weeks during the school year.
- **Worksite Partners** include; Waterside Workshops, CoB Fire, BHS Stageteck, YMCA, Ecology Center, BUSD LEARNS, Super Science Saturdays, Biotech labs, BCC, COB Rent Board, RISE, Healthy Black Families, BYA, and Youth Equity Partnership.
- **Total hours worked by participants** so far this fiscal year: 33,000 +
- **Total \$ earned:** Over \$600,000!

OBJECTIVES

"I feel comfortable in my workspace, and appreciate YouthWorks for giving me the opportunity to experience a professional setting and improve leadership and collaborative skills." - Fall '24 YouthWorker

Through strategic partnerships with the Berkeley Unified School District, Berkeley City College, relevant City of Berkeley departments, and community-based organizations, YouthWorks offers job placements that align with research-based growth and development principles.

- **The specific objectives of their work experience INCLUDE:** Create a safe and well-supervised work environment where participants can learn the importance of a strong work ethic and begin their journey toward productive future employment.
- For many participants, **this work experience is their first chance to develop work habits**, basic job skills, and an understanding of workplace expectations. Since it's often their first job, mentorship and guidance are essential for their growth.

The anticipated outcomes for participants include enhancements in Learning Skills, Life Skills, Professionalism, Contribution, and Sense of Self-Care. The overarching objective is to ensure that all program participants have access to educational resources and culturally responsive training, acquire essential life skills for self-sufficiency, and succeed in their professional endeavors, careers, and everyday lives.



YouthWorks /Phone: 510.981.4970/
Youthworks@berkeleyca.gov