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MEDIA ALERT

County of Orange Expands Work Experience Program to Include Youth

SANTA ANA, Calif. (June 24, 2022) – In partnership with the Orange County Workforce Development Board (OCWDB), the County of Orange (County) has expanded the Work Experience Program to include youth ages 14-24. Orange County businesses are encouraged to enroll in the upcoming program year to help train youth to meet their organization's needs and jumpstart their exposure to the work field at no cost to the employer.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, employee resignations are at an all-time high. According to the most recent [Job Openings and Labor Turnover Summary](#), 4.4 million people quit their jobs in April 2022. This leaves businesses with hectic environments and low work performance.

Historically a program offered to adults only, the Youth Work Experience Program allows businesses to make an impact by helping youth gain skills and motivation along with providing career exploration and work experience. This program provides many benefits for participating employers including:

- Having wages subsidized through the program so there is no cost to the employer
- Building a multi-generational workforce
- Being at the forefront of training for your sector
- Training for a period of up to 12 weeks, 15-30 hours per week

The new program year begins July 1, 2022. For more information on this program including how to participate, businesses can call (714) 480-6500 or email BusinessServices@ocworkforcesolutions.com.

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The Orange County Development Board, through the Orange County Business Service Center and Orange County Workforce Solutions Center, offers comprehensive services such as hiring assistance, career transition services, and employment services to businesses and job seekers at no cost.