

Summer jobs for teens

That first summer job is often a rite of passage for many teens. It's the signal that you're on your way to adulthood, and it's also a way to money to pay for activities, save for a car, or put away cash for college. You don't have to wait that long to start testing out the job market.

#1. Camp Counselor

Are you interested in leadership? For teens who are natural leaders or educators, a summer job as a camp counselor is an ideal pick. The job will allow older teens to spend time outdoors, mentor younger kids, and help them to develop new skills. A great perk of this job—aside from being paid to spend plenty of time outdoors—is developing loads of transferable skills that will be useful throughout life, such as leadership abilities, communication, and conflict resolution skills.

#2. Golf Caddy

Perfect for teens who enjoy spending time in the great outdoors, caddying can be a great choice of a summer job. This job does require an understanding of the game and some physical endurance, as there is a lot of walking involved as well as carrying a heavy bag of golf clubs. However, the pay isn't bad considering that you can expect to earn anywhere between \$50 and \$100 for about four hours of work. More generous golfers may also reward their caddies with a tip.

#3. Retail Salesperson

Perhaps one of the more diverse job options for teens, retail sales offers a great deal of opportunity for teens that are looking for work. This type of work can pay anywhere in the range of \$11 to \$13 an hour depending upon the duties involved. Inventory, stocking shelves, product demonstrations, handing out samples in grocery stores, customer service, or operating a cash register are possible. This type of work can be great for teens who are particularly sociable, as they will often have to interact with the public in addition to working as a part of a team.

#4. Food Service Worker

Here's an opportunity to develop social skills while earning an income. A job in the foodservice industry is another natural fit for teens who enjoy interacting with the public. This job allows employees to work as a part of a team while learning about following instructions and conflict resolution. The job also comes with an opportunity for high earnings since food service jobs usually pay about \$9-to-\$10 per hour. Also, many restaurants allow their staff to earn tips.

#5. Lifeguard

A great choice for teens who are strong swimmers, lifeguarding is a challenging position that comes with significant responsibility. Completion of certification courses is required to be a lifeguard—and you typically need to be over 15 years old. A lifeguard position requires a high level of maturity and professionalism, but it is a rewarding job that can help teens to develop their decision-making skills and confidence while earning somewhere between \$9 and \$10 dollars per hour.

#6. Nanny

Teens with a nurturing spirit who enjoy children could consider taking on a summer job as a nanny or babysitter. The good news is that nanny or babysitter positions are typically in high demand during the summer months when working parents need to secure childcare

for their young children. A nanny position requires someone who is highly responsible and can resolve conflicts. Though this job pays reasonably well, generally in the range of \$10 to \$15 dollars hourly, it can require a great deal of patience.

#7. Housekeeper

Though teenagers may be often viewed as having a difficult time keeping their bedrooms clean, there are some teens that do well in the housekeeping field. This type of work can bring in about \$10 an hour and will allow teens to learn responsibility and develop their organizational skills. Housekeeping jobs are also in demand in a variety of industries and settings.

#8. Gardener

This seasonal job is a great choice for teens who love to spend time outdoors. Since many people don't have time to care for their lawns, this job is often in high demand in summer and in autumn. Teens who aren't afraid to get dirty can earn a lot of money on this demand. Along with cash, you'll stay in great shape physically. You can specialize in a particular service or two. You could offer to plant flowers in the spring and follow up each week or so to weed and water the gardens. Also, many people go on vacation in the summer, and you can offer to water their plants.

#9. Tutor

Teens who are academically inclined or aspire to work as a teacher might enjoy spending their summer months tutoring. Kids in summer school often need the extra help, and this presents a real opportunity for teens who are particularly talented in certain subject areas. Teens who opt to take on a job as a tutor can earn about \$15 an hour when they first start out, though this rate can increase depending upon their skills and experience.

#10. Computer Guru

Technology is transforming the way we do virtually everything, and one of the side effects is a career opportunity for tech-savvy teens. Depending on your level of expertise, you may be able to find work as an online programmer or coder, a freelance website developer, an app developer or a theme creator. You can help older adults master the computer or learn social media skills. Even if you're not a computer expert, but you're familiar with social media, you can offer local businesses help in establishing a Facebook and Instagram page. You can use a camera phone to take pictures of the business and its products and upload them onto the websites.

#11. Plant and Pet-Sitter

Summertime is when many people head out on vacation, but if you're staying close to home, you could earn some spare change by acting as a plant- or pet-sitter. Determine your pay rates by the hour or by the job and discuss what you'll be responsible for while your employers are away.

#12. Movie Theater Worker

Teens who love the movies may find the air-conditioned atmosphere of their local theater appealing when the summer weather makes the temperatures go up. You can manage the concession booth, be a ticket-taker, or clean up after moviegoers. You'll earn money and see all the summer blockbusters.

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