
CHILD AND YOUTH WORKER (A.C.A., non-restricted certified trade)

WORK DESCRIPTION

What would I be doing?

Child and Youth Workers perform many different roles from supervising structured activities to escorting youth to a court house for a hearing. In general the workers:

- interview clients to identify needs,
- encourage change in children and youth who are experiencing a range of social, emotional, learning, and behavioural challenges in their lives,
- teach various life skills, and provides counseling,
- present a good role model by being positive, enthusiastic.

The job is never dull and it can be exhausting. The workplace could be noisy, sometimes security alarms must be worn for personal protection, and a lot of patience may be exercised but a person who likes helping others gets a lot of job satisfaction. Most workers in this trade work shifts, including weekends and holidays. A 40-hour week is normal.

PLACE OF WORK

Who needs Child and Youth Workers?

- psychiatric hospital,

- group home,
- private home,
- correctional institutions,
- schools,
- may be self-employed

CONDITIONS OF WORK

A Child and Youth Worker Trade is a non-restricted certified trade.

A person may or may not have a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered as an apprentice to work in the trade but apprenticeship is strongly recommended. An apprentice **may** be paid wages.

SALARIES/WAGES

The salary depends on the employer, years of experience, and level of training. In unionized places the wages and conditions of work are negotiated collectively.

In the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area, full-time Child and Youth Workers can earn \$ 11.54 - \$ 17.96 per hour, averaging about \$ 14.08 per hour.

(Next)

CATALOGUE OF SKILLED TRADES IN THE ELGIN, MIDDLESEX AND OXFORD AREA

PROSPECTS of EMPLOYMENT in the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area

RATING: *good*

Jobs in this occupation will be contributed to growth and retirements.

APPRENTICESHIP IN THE CHILD AND YOUTH WORKER TRADE

- takes 3 to 4 years or 7 000 h, including 720 h of post secondary, in-school training; prior education and experience may shorten the time to complete all the competencies
- must complete apprenticeship to receive a Certificate of Apprenticeship,
- there is no Certificate of Qualification in this trade,
- Interprovincial Trade Certification (Red Seal) is not available in this trade

In-School Education:

An OYAP student must be 16 years old and completed Grade 10 (or equivalent). Otherwise, all apprenticeship applicants must successfully complete Grade 12 (OSSD) or equivalent. The following competencies are valuable:

English, *Communication and*
Mathematics, *planning skills,*
Social Science *Creativity, patience*

OYAP students must be full-time students in high school and those who obtain apprenticeships will complete the apprenticeship curriculum in college or an approved Training Delivery Agent.

Specific skills learned in school are: sanitation, personal and client safety, basic communication, calculations, conflict resolution, counseling, life-skills, first aid or CPR, child care, child development.

On the Job Training

- As a high school Cooperative Education credit (towards O.S.S.D.), learning is connected to one of the school subjects.
- The apprentices must follow a program in the **Apprenticeship Training Standards** book which is given to them in the workplace when they register. As each competency is achieved the employer signs it off.

OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

A Certificate as a journeyman is not needed to start working as a Child and Youth Worker but a registration as an apprentice is recommended. After becoming a journeyman a worker may:

- become a foreperson or a supervisor,
- start own day care business,
- group home supervisor,
- work in related areas or occupations.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Mental Health Worker
- Teacher Assistant, Day-Care Worker

CONTACT INFORMATION

Whom should I call?

School Guidance/Co-Op Office
Apprenticeship Office 519 675 7788
London: 1 800 265 1050
Apprenticeship web: www.edu.gov.on.ca
EMOLTB web site: www.localboard.on.ca
Training Hotline: 1 800 387 5656
Union: