



# LET OUR YOUTH THRIVE: Remove Unnecessary Work Permit Requirements

## THE PROBLEM: OBSTACLES TO EMPLOYMENT

**X** To legally get a job in 34 states, teenagers must obtain a work permit from a government officer tasked with reviewing the teenagers' occupations, work hours, and future employer information.

**X** Depending on state policy, bureaucrats can also require a physical examination from a doctor!  
**X** Plus, bureaucrats can unilaterally determine whether or not a job is in the child's best interest.

## PARENTS VS. EDUCATORS & REGULATORS



Right now, when a state requires bureaucratic approval before a teenager can work, schools and agencies can *override parents*.

Millions of teenagers *want* to join the workforce, and if their parents approve, then the government should not have the ability to undermine their decision. States should be allowing teenagers to decide, with their parents, to get a job—not the government.

## THE SOLUTION: ELIMINATE YOUTH WORK PERMITS

State lawmakers can have an immediate impact on their local communities and economies by eliminating work permit requirements for teenagers.

### By eliminating youth work permits, policymakers can:

- Restore decision-making to parents
- Streamline the hiring process
- Remove administrative barriers for young Americans
- Help solve the labor shortage
- Modernize work

### DID YOU KNOW?



The health and safety of children under 18 are already protected under the federal Fair Labor Standards Acts to ensure they can participate in the workforce without jeopardizing their well-being. In short, **removing youth work permits does not change child labor laws regarding work hours and occupations!**

## SOME STRINGENT STATES



In Michigan, teenagers must obtain work permits if they're **homeschooled**, each time they **switch jobs**, and even during the summer and for **unpaid volunteer work**.



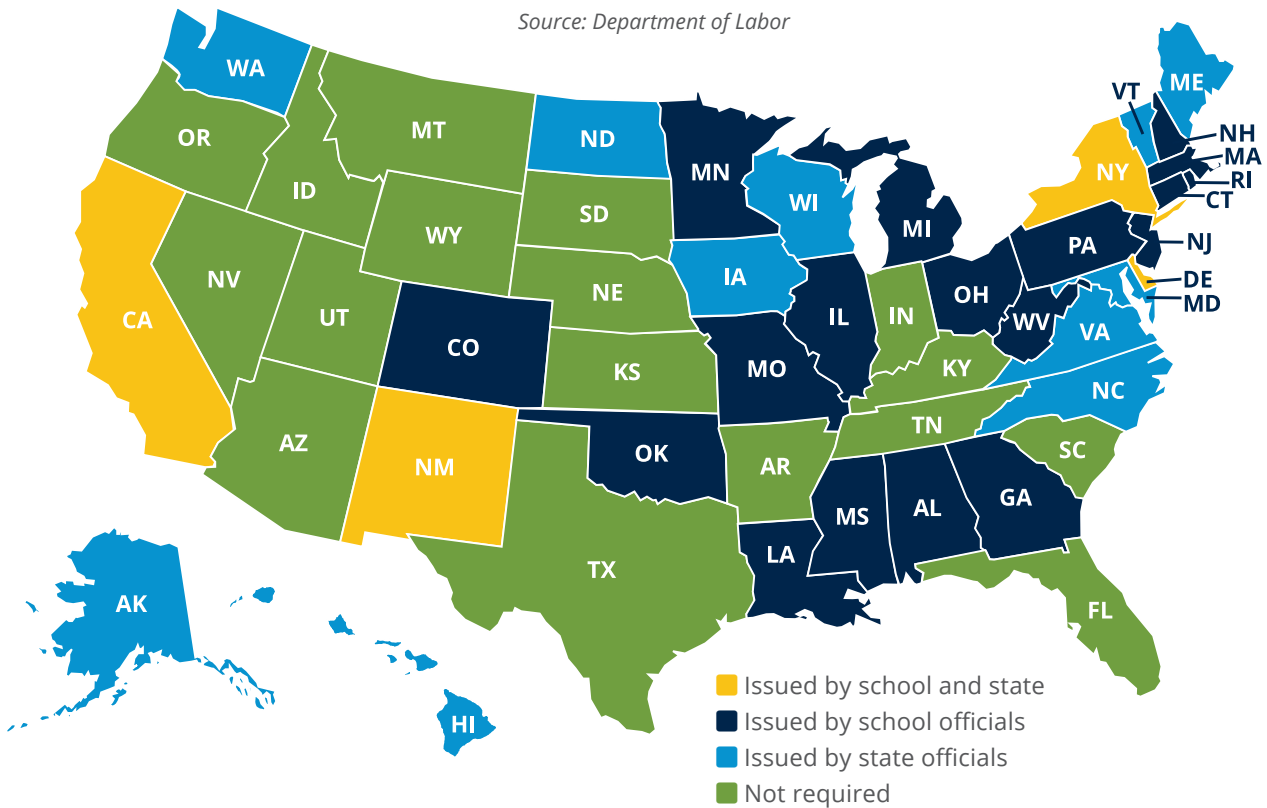
Ohio is one of the states that requires a **physician's certificate** indicating a **teenager is "physically fit to be employed."**



Pennsylvania requires kids who have **already graduated high school** to obtain a work permit.

### DOES A TEENAGER UNDER 18 NEED TO GET GOVERNMENT PERMISSION TO WORK IN YOUR STATE?

Source: Department of Labor



#### BOTTOM LINE:

States should *eliminate work permit requirements*, leaving the decision-making to parents and eliminating unnecessary hurdles to teenage work.