

# Youth Application Forest Youth Success

**The Forest Youth Success Program is a paid workforce training program for teens residing in Skamania County!**

## About the Program

Forest Youth Success is a summer job for teens (ages 14+) living in Skamania County. Not only do participants work and earn a paycheck, they learn valuable life and professional skills in a safe training-based environment that they can take with them into their future endeavors.

Employees who are hired begin the program on July 1st with five days of leadership and safety training. All trainings will include challenge-based activities which help build workers into a team, teach creativity & communication, and develop problem solving skills. These initiatives are used throughout the program, and all participants in FYS are expected to participate fully in these activities. Technical training in the proper and safe use of tools as well as first aid administration will also be provided.

Employees will be grouped into Crews and assigned to work with an adult supervisor in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and other locations around the county. Projects may include trail and campground maintenance and reconstruction, debris clearing, invasive plant removal, stream or habitat rehabilitation, and other forest-related projects. The work requires physical exertion in the field including lifting, carrying heavy objects, using hand tools, hauling tools, shoveling, raking, and hiking distances on steep, rocky terrain through brush, as well as on trails.

Throughout the program, participants will have the opportunity to learn more about life skills and earn recreational field trips, have guest speakers, and complete a variety of activities from home base. Topics will include forest ecology, workplace issues, financial literacy, and other pertinent training.

Note: FYS is a grant funded program. We are funded for this season but our federal partners are experiencing uncertainty that could lead to changes in our ability to move forward with our season. We will communicate to applicants as soon as possible if our funding is reduced or eliminated.

## Program Schedule & Starting Wage (\*tentative)

➤➤➤ **\*June 25th, 2026 - August 6th, 2026 (Family orientation May 17th @ 4pm)**

➤➤➤ **All youth employees will start at minimum wage: \$17.13/hr**

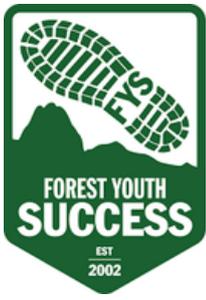
➤➤➤ **Work Schedule: Monday-Friday from 7:45a-3:00pm**

## Eligibility

- In order to be hired, you must be 14 years old by June 10th, 2026
- FYS is available to students finishing grades 8-11. Graduating seniors are not eligible.
- Applicants who live within the boundary of Skamania County will receive priority consideration for hiring
- In order to be hired, you will need to provide documents that verify your federal eligibility to work by June 3rd (ex. passport, social security card, birth certificate, etc.)
- Program participants need to be able to get to and from our home base location in the Stevenson-Carson School District every work day
- Program participants also need to be present for the duration of training (6/25-7/6)

## Program Contact

This program is operated jointly by the Stevenson Carson School District, WSU Extension Skamania County 4-H, and the U.S. Forest Service. For questions, contact our Technical Advisor, Somer Meade: [meades@scsd303.org](mailto:meades@scsd303.org) or 509-427-3932  
Program Website: [https://www.scsd303.org/programs/forest\\_youth\\_success](https://www.scsd303.org/programs/forest_youth_success)



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## Employee Expectations

- Employees must be able to write and follow directions either independently or with assistance.
- Workers are expected to be safe, respectful, and tolerant of individual differences.
- All workers are expected to work to the best of their ability. They will be trained in proper tool use, and expected to follow safety guidelines at all times.
- Workers must conform to the dress code and be prepared to work at the start of each day – this means bringing lunch, water and any necessary personal items. Workers are required to wear sunscreen at all times outdoors, and a waiver is available upon request. All participants will need work attire like thick pants/jeans and work boots appropriate for trail work (sturdy leather boots that cover the ankle). Assistance may be available for families in need. Students selected for employment are responsible for their own transportation to and from our designated home base in the Stevenson Carson School District (exact location to be announced).
- Self Care
- Communication

## About the Positions

All youth employees, regardless of their age or grade level, will begin as FYS crew members. After going through training, crews will be formed and youth staff who show strong leadership, initiative, and communication skills will be selected to go through an interview process to become a mentor. Crews will have a maximum of 6 youth staff, comprised of a minimum of 4 crew members and 2 mentors. There is no longer a maximum on the number of times a youth can participate in this program but priority may go to new students.

### Crew Members

Crew members will report for work each day on time and be prepared to work outdoors performing high level physical labor in the summer heat to the specifications of our project partners. Crew members need to communicate, work as a team, solve problems, and be able and willing to follow instructions.

### Mentors

Once selected, mentors will be asked to provide leadership and oversight to their crew. They will serve as a role model, help hold the crew accountable to the standards set by the project partners, and make sure everyone is keeping themselves and others safe. They will provide feedback to the crew and to the adult staff to help the crew improve week over week. Mentors may receive additional hours and will be compensated at a rate of \$17.00/hr.

## Ways to Submit your Application

1. Scan & Email it to [fys@scsd303.org](mailto:fys@scsd303.org) by the deadline
2. Turn it in to your school front office by the deadline
3. Mail it to WSU 4-H, PO Box 369, Stevenson WA 98648 by the deadline



Join our  
Application  
Waitlist



**Note:** FYS is a short term program, we are unable to allow more than 3 absences. Due to the nature of our work, no absences are allowed during training.

SCSD programs, employment, and volunteer service are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported to the Program Technical Advisor or the School District Administrative Office.