

\$13.00 an hour but... You'll have to work for it

Student jobs, employment, whatever you wish to call it, Peta Smith is going to dabble into the world of student jobs to find out what students feel about working, the stress of having a job, how to get a job as and finally how employers really feel about students working for them. Well time to get to work! (para 1)

How many students can really say that they enjoy working? Maybe not too many especially when most students have jobs such as cleaning, working in a store, and Baby-sitting just to name a few. And let's face it \$13.00 an hour (which the minimum wage is right now) is not too flash. So why do students get jobs? "For the money" answered the students interviewed for this article. But at \$13.00 an hour it is obvious they won't be living in a mansion for a while yet. So what do hardworking students spend their money on? Well look no further than Friday and Saturday night parties. Most students love their social lives so that is what they spend their hard earned cash on. Food, Drinks, Clothes and Petrol is the majority of what students spend their cash on. But if they are not doing that, they tend to save which is good and let me tell you it makes the parents happy! But is it hard for a student to deal with NCEA pressure and work? Most students say "no." They believe that their employers are reasonable when it comes to school work and will give them time off if they need it to study for the big exams.

"You can finally stop asking for hand outs from those Parentals." (para 2)

So a reasonable amount of students would have to say when their supervisors, Managers or Bosses walked passed them for the first few weeks of working it would suddenly be shoulders back, stand up straight, put your nicest smile on your dial, and put your goody two shoes on. But how do employers really feel about students? Don't be scared - these answers are relatively nice. When interviewing the manager of Plaza Supervalu in Invercargill, I learnt her views on the students that work at her family owned business. A big thing that affects employers is that some students love their extra curricular activities, being part of sports teams and going on family vacations in our school breaks and This is what Plaza Supervalu manager feels is the hardest part about having students working in your business. She also told me that Christmas through New Year 2010 through to 2011 every single one of her students asked for leave and she was unable to give everyone leave, telling me that was difficult for her!

But don't worry students, working also has benefits for your employer such as it gives flexibility and also allows time off for the full timers with students being able to work in the school holidays. But the major question I had for this manager was how reliable are students when it comes to work. It came with a good response with Gillian saying, "Generally, once again depends on the student but 99% of the time we are happy with our students!"

Okay but what if you don't want a job - wait did I hear this right? You don't want to...

- Gain responsibility?
- Earn Money
- Learn time management?
- Make a good CV for later life?
- Learn new skills?
- Meet new people?
- Develop a good work ethic?

Did you just read what was listed here. Having a job as a student is super beneficial. You are able to gain skills that will help you in later life. (para 3)

So now you have the job you wanted that is going to provide you with some well earned cash you

can stop asking for handouts from the Parents. But then there is the next important question how do you act at this so-called place of work? Well firstly you work hard; you were lucky to be given this opportunity so show it. Although the idea of rising from your cozy bed on a Saturday or Sunday morning may not be your cup of tea, it is going to be definitely worth it. And you are going to be super proud of yourself for getting this job and working super hard at it. (para 4)

I bet you're now wondering how do I treat my boss? Well firstly with respect, but you seem like you would know that already. They were kind enough to give you the job in the first place, and had to trust their intuition to give you this position. Show them why they hired you in the first place, show them the organized, positive, ready to learn person that they saw in that interview. I'm not saying you are going to be going to be hanging out with your boss but it makes the situation at work less stressful for you, and you will feel more comfortable in the work environment. (para 5)

Work hard. It is what you do now that counts towards your future where you will reap the benefits of the hard work you put in now. Students who are trying to get a job keep trying you will get there in the end. Think of those great skills you will get from working and keep applying at all the places that you can think of - there may be a light at the end of that tunnel. Employers give students a chance as the main percentage of them are hard working, organized, responsible, and keen to learn new skills. **Why wouldn't you want to hire students plus we are cheaper; you can't pay every employee \$13.00 an hour can you.** (para 6)

So how do you get a part time job as a student. Okay sometimes it is not as easy as it sounds - you make a CV, drop it into all the potential places you can think of and still don't get hired. It's hard to get a job but you have got to keep on trying. But if you do happen to get that interview here are a few tips that are going to be beneficial to you. (para 7)

Helpful Hints for Success in that Interview

- 1 . Don't go into an interview with a coffee or a drink, you are not Britney Spears who constantly runs all over LA with a Starbucks.
- 2 . If you applied with your CV it is helpful you bring another copy of it with you because it shows that you are prepared and organized and it also gives the employer something to look over.
- 3 . Arrive at least 10-15 minutes early before your interview. This gives you some thinking time before, and also the employer does not have to wait for you.
- 4 . Turn you cell-phone off. Imagine you're midway through the interview, everything seems to be going great and all off a sudden your cell-phone goes off playing something embarrassing like the new Chris Brown song. AWKWARD!
- 5 . **Something my dad said which I totally agree with is, Dress smart. A slovenly appearance may equal a slovenly attitude. So take some time getting yourself ready remember personal presentation is key.**
- 6 . My last piece of advice always go into the interview positive with a smile on your face because when it comes to getting a job a smile can go along way. (para 8)

So that's a wrap on Student jobs. Okay, maybe employment sounds more professional, but there isn't much more for me to say except students keep working hard all the way! (para 9)