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500 jobs available for young adults

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Are you between 16 and 24 and looking for work?

Now 500 jobs will be available for low-income Hamilton County youth this summer thanks to a \$500,000 federal grant.

The jobs will be offered through the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency and will be overseen by Hamilton County Job and Family Services.

"Unemployment in the early 20's can impact a lifetime of earnings," said Hamilton County Commissioner David Pepper.

The three-man commission approved the federal grant Wednesday for the Summer Youth Employment Program.

"They never have that first step in their career and if you get a young adult who is used to being unemployed, that's the start of a bad trend," said Pepper, a Democrat who is running for state auditor.

The goal is get 500 young adults in jobs by July 12; already 100 of the positions are filled, said Diana Dozier, the program's manager. It's the first year for the program.

Summer jobs will pay \$9 an hour and employees will be guaranteed 25 work hours each week. Jobs are in effect from July 12 to Sept. 30.

"This is something that could change youth lives. We are investing in our future," said Mike Boehmer, spokesman for Jobs and Family Services.

Neither county nor CAA officials could say what kind of jobs would be available.

The application deadline is Friday.

For more information on what types of jobs will be available, or to see if you qualify, visit <http://www.cincy-caa.org/summeryouth.asp>
