



FARMWORKER LEGAL SERVICES

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Potential 2007 H2A Jobs in Michigan

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Several agricultural employers have submitted job orders that may result in them being granted permission to bring foreign "guestworkers" into the U.S. under the federal H2A program. To be approved for H2A guestworkers, the employers have to assert that there is a shortage of workers in the area where the work will take place, due to them not being able to fill the jobs through advertisements and normal recruiting methods.

U.S. citizens and immigrants living in the U.S. have the right to apply for these jobs. If the employer finds enough qualified U.S. citizens or residents for the job, then they will not have to bring guestworkers into the U.S. H2A jobs have to pay at least **\$9.65 per hour** in Michigan (starting 2/21/2007), and the employer has to provide free housing to any worker who is not from the local area. All the jobs listed below offer 40 hours per week.

Migrant and seasonal farmworkers who are already in the United States have a right to apply for these jobs and to receive the same terms and conditions that foreign guestworkers should receive. **They can apply up until the half-way point (shown below) of the employment period.** They should receive the same benefits of employment that the employer would give to a foreign worker.

This means that U.S. workers can receive the following benefits:

- an hourly wage of at least \$9.65 per hour
- free and licensed housing if the worker does not live within commuting distance
- a guarantee to be paid for at least 75% of the period of employment shown below
- the cost of travel from the place of recruitment to the job site, after completing 50% of the contract period
- the cost of travel back home, after completing the contract period
- workers compensation insurance
- a record of the amount of work performed and amount paid, including deductions

Farmworker Legal Services will counsel H2A workers about their rights under their contracts, as well as advise U.S. workers who are not given a chance to obtain the H2A jobs that the law permits them to obtain.

Potential employers for these guestworkers are, in order of Half-way Point:

Employer	City and County	Positions Available	Type of Work	Period of Employment	Half-way Point	Hourly Pay	Michigan Job Order Number
Van Thomme Greenhouse	New Baltimore - Macomb County	3	Horticultural Worker (plants, saplings, field work, hi/lo equipment)	1/10/2007 to 7/1/2007	April 6, 2007	\$9.65	2527309
Gee Farms	Stockbridge - Ingham County	7	Nursery Worker	2/22/2007 to 11/15/2007	July 5, 2007	\$9.65	2547524
James F. Demski Farms	Coloma - Berrien County	138	Farmworker (vegetables)	3/15/2007 to 10/30/2007	July 7, 2007	\$9.65	2547000
KBR Inc.	Romeo - Macomb County	7	Farmworker (peaches, plums, pears, corn, cabbage, squash, pumpkins, cider)	3/1/2007 to 11/21/2007	July 11, 2007	\$9.65	2547579
Fogler's Orchard and Farm Market	Rochester - Oakland County	6	Farmworker (vegetables, flowers, greenhouse, fields)	3/29/2007 to 10/31/2007	July 15, 2007	\$9.65	2547011
Bryant Sod Farm	Lapeer - Lapeer County	10	Crop Laborer (sod farm)	3/1/2007 to 12/1/2007	July 16, 2007	\$9.65	2547209
Oliver Sod Farms	Macomb - Macomb County	5	Farmworker (peppers, sod, greenhouse, corn, cabbage, cucumbers, tomatoes, squash)	3/1/2007 to 12/5/2007	July 18, 2007	\$9.65	2547191

A division of Legal Services of South Central Michigan

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A member agency of the Jackson County, Monroe County and South Central Michigan United Ways

Employer (Continued)	City and County	Positions Available	Type of Work	Period of Employment	Half-way Point	Hourly Pay	Michigan Job Order Number
Dutchman Tree Farms	Manton – Missaukee County	48	Christmas Tree Farmworker	3/1/2007 to 12/10/2007	July 21, 2007	\$9.65	2548274
Jim Hoffman & Sons	Petoskey - Emmet County	7	Nursery worker	3/15/2007 to 11/30/2007	July 23, 2007	\$9.65	2547164
Northern Nursery	McMillan - Luce County	8	Nursery Worker	3/15/2007 to 12/1/2007	July 23, 2007	\$9.65	2548782
Gass Centennial Farm	Ray Township - Macomb County	8	Crop Laborer (vegetables)	4/1/2007 to 11/20/2007	July 26, 2007	\$9.70	2547110
Bluff Gardens Inc.	Harbor Springs - Emmet County	8	Farmworker - fruits and vegetables: hoeing, weeding, planting, harvesting	4/1/2007 to 12/1/2007	August 1, 2007	\$9.65	2547091
Dave Kroupa Farms	Traverse City - Grand Traverse County	2	General Farm Labor (cherries)	4/2/2007 to 11/30/2007	August 1, 2007	\$9.65	2546984
Hamlin Farms	South Haven - Allegan County	60	Farmworker Vegetable – cucumbers	6/11/2007 to 9/24/2007	August 2, 2007	\$9.65	2570315
Lynn Mayer's Great Lakes Glads	Bronson - Branch County	70	Farmworker – Gladiolus flowers, sunflowers	6/4/2007 to 10/16/2007	August 10, 2007	\$9.65 to \$9.88	2566744
The Garden Spot	Shepherd - Isabella County	1	Vegetable Farming Supervisor - oriental vegetables	6/1/2007 to 10/20/2007	August 10, 2007	\$10.00, 45 hrs/wk	2568213
Berville Farm	Riley – St. Clair County	10	Farmworker – vegetable	6/2/2007 to 10/31/2007	August 16, 2007	\$9.65	2564938
Northern Farm Market	Romeo - Macomb County	12	Vegetable Worker (greenhouse, vegetables, plants)	6/2/2007 to 11/5/2007	August 18, 2007	\$9.65	2564836
W.W. Farm	Clarkston - Oakland County	5	Farmworker – general	5/25/2007 to 11/15/2007	August 20, 2007	\$9.65	2565874
Leo Ocanas Farm	Traverse City - Grand Traverse County	2	Fruit & Vegetable Harvester (cherries, apples)	5/25/2007 to 11/25/2007	August 25, 2007	\$9.65	2560564
Bill's Farm Market	Petoskey - Emmet County	5	Farmworker (vegetables, flowers, Christmas trees)	5/7/2007 to 12/15/2007	August 26, 2007	\$9.70	2546960
Johnson Farms	Traverse City - Grand Traverse County	6	Farmworker (cherries, apples)	6/1/2007 to 11/30/2007	August 31, 2007	\$9.65	2547530
Demeulenaere Farms	Romero - Macomb County	8	Farmworker (fruits & vegetables)	5/20/2007 to 12/20/2007	September 4, 2007	\$9.75	2563526
Riedstra Dairy	Mendon - St. Joseph County	10	Laborer (hay, corn, fencing)	4/16/2007 to 2/16/2008	September 16, 2007	\$9.65	2547562
Richard Rettele	Northville - Washtenaw County	1	Trainer/Exercise Rider for Race Horses	5/18/2007 to 2/28/2008	October 8, 2007	\$9.65	2561449

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