

Labor Occupational Health Program
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September 6, 2016

Dear Educators,

Now in our 13th year, the University of California at Berkeley and UC Los Angeles, along with the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation, are once again sponsoring a **3-day all-expense-paid Young Worker Leadership Academy** in Berkeley in January 26 – 28, 2017. (See *attached flyer for more details*). The Berkeley Academy will be a statewide Academy. ***This Academy offers a unique opportunity for young adults to become leaders and advocates for teen worker rights in workplace health and safety.***

Every 9 minutes a young worker is injured, twice the rate for adults. Most young people know very little about their rights on the job or what they can do to deal with workplace problems. To help address this problem, we have created the **Young Worker Leadership Academy**. As a result of past Academies, teams of youth have planned and conducted presentations, developed educational materials, and even changed their high school's work permit policies in many communities throughout California!

Each Academy brings together six teams of high school-aged youth (4 youth per team with an adult sponsor) from six communities in California. Participants learn about how and why youth are injured at work, their rights on the job, and how youth can have an impact on public policy, at both the local and state level. Each team will plan and carry out a local action to promote teen worker safety during May 2017, Safe Jobs for Youth Month. ***Youth participants will gain first-hand experience in actually making a difference.***

We hope again to assemble a diverse group of participants, including youth ranging from proven leaders to those who may be struggling to reach their full potential. **We are particularly looking for tenth and eleventh graders** who may be able to attend as mentors in a subsequent year. Each team must also have an adult sponsor who will attend the Academy and provide support to the team in planning and conducting its team project after the Academy. The application must include the Adult Recommendation and Commitment form, including your attached written recommendation.

Encourage students you want to support to form a team, and then complete and send in the application to the LOHP office by **November 7, 2016**. If you have any questions, please contact Joselyn Delgado (joselyn@berkeley.edu; 510-643-8483).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Diane Bush and Kelsie Scruggs
Labor Occupational Health Program
UC Berkeley