

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
Wage and Hour Division  
Washington

LEARNER CERTIFICATES IN SOME INDUSTRIES WILL  
AWAIT DETERMINATION OF HEARINGS

Issuance of special certificates in some industries for the employment of learners at less than the legal minimum wage will await the completion of industry hearings and findings of fact, Administrator Elmer F. Andrews of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor, explained today.

These are industries, Mr. Andrews said, where additional information concerning occupations and operations is considered necessary to determine the length of the learning period and other limitations to be fixed in the certificates. However, in these industries, as in all others, it was pointed out that all applications, which fail to establish that experienced workers are not available or which otherwise fail to show that a denial of the application would result in a curtailment of opportunities for employment, will be denied at once.

Hearings have been held and findings of fact issued for the Apparel Industry (men's, women's, infants' and children's apparel and accessories, except in gloves, boots and shoes, millinery, knitted wear and hosiery). Hearings for the knitted wear industry and the hosiery industry have been held and findings of fact are being prepared.

Hearings for the glove industry and the boot and shoe industry will be scheduled for the immediate future.

The purpose of the industry hearing is to determine (1) the occupations which require a learning period (certificates are not issued for learners in jobs which require no training or skill); (2) the factors which

may have a bearing on curtailment of opportunities for employment (certificates are issued only to prevent curtailment of opportunities for employment); (3) and under what limitations as to wages, number, and length of the learning period special certificates may issue (these limitations must be fixed by the Administrator).

Applications on the new official forms of the Wage and Hour Division of employers for special certificates authorizing employment of learners at less than the legal minimum are now coming into the Division. The forms provide only for applications by employers, and the certificates will not be issued on applications from employees. In a number of industries industry hearings will not be necessary. Where no industry hearing is deemed necessary, applicants showing a need will be issued special certificates as rapidly as possible.

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