UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TITLE 29 - LABOR CHAPTER V - WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

PART 522 - SECTIONS 522.060 to 522.071 - REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF LEARNERS IN THE KNITTED WEAR INDUSTRY

The following Regulations - Part 522, Sections 522.

060 to 522.071 (Regulations Applicable to the Employment of
Learners in the Knitted Wear Industry) are hereby issued.

These regulations repeal and supersede all regulations previously issued applicable to the employment of learners in the
Knitted Wear Industry, and shall become effective upon my signing the original and upon the publication thereof in the Federal Register, and shall continue in force and effect until hereafter modified.

Signed at Washington, D. C., this 5th day of October, 1940.

Philip B Fleming

Administrator

Wage and Hour Division U. S. Department of Labor

Published in Federal Register, October 10, 1940

### SECTION 522.060 - ISSUE OF SPECIAL LEARNER CERTIFICATES IN THE KNITTED

## WEAR INDUSTRY

Special certificates authorizing the employment at subminimum rates of learners in the Knitted Wear Industry engaged in the occupations of machine knitter, machine stitcher, presser, winder, dyeing machine operator, brush machine operator, or dryer operator shall be issued upon the terms and conditions set forth below to any plant making application therefor on forms provided by the Wage and Hour Division.

SECTION 522.061 - NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF LEARNERS FOR LABOR TURNOVER

Learners employed under the certificate for Labor turnover shall not exceed at any one time five percent of the total number of productive factory workers employed in the plant, (not including office and sales personnel) provided however that if the total factory employment is less than 100, the employment of as many as five learners may be authorized in any certificate.

# SECTION 522.062 - LEARNER OCCUPATIONS

Learners may be employed only in the occupations of machine knitter, machine, stitcher, presser, winder, dyeing machine operator, brush machine operator, and dryer operator, except that in exceptional cases the employment of learners at a subminimum wage may be authorized in other occupations upon a showing by any individual employer making application for a special certificate that a denial would result in a curtailment of opportunities for employment.

### SECTION 522.063 - LENGTH OF LEARNING PERIOD

No worker shall be employed as a learner under the certificate after 480 hours' experience in the occupation of machine knitter, or 320 hours in the occupations of machine stitcher or presser, or 240 hours in the occupations of winder, dyeing machine operator, brush machine operator, or dryer operator.

## SECTION 522.064 - LEARNER WAGE RATE

Learners employed under the certificate shall be paid not less than 25 cents per hour. Where experienced operatives are paid piece work rates, learners shall be paid the same piece work rate, and shall receive piece rate earnings if in excess of the subminimum rate.

### SECTION 522.065 - INVESTIGATION OF LABOR CONDITIONS

Certificates for labor turnover shall authorize the employment of learners at subminimum rates only when experienced workers are not available in the area from which the employer customarily draws his supply of labor. Investigations of local labor market conditions when necessary shall be made with the cooperation of the Public Employment offices, employers' associations, trade unions, and by field investigations of the

Wage and Hour Division. Where the information furnished with requests for renewal of turnover certificates, or where investigations made by the Division indicate that learners have been employed in such a manner as to create unfair competitive labor cost advantages for the applicant, or to depress working standards established for experienced workers for work of a like or comparable character in the industry, no certificate shall be issued.

SECTION 522.066 - NEW PLANTS, EXPANDING PLANTS, AND GOVERNMENT CONTRACT PRODUCTION

Special certificates authorizing the employment of learners upon the same terms and conditions in the same occupations may be issued for a number in excess of the five percent allowed for labor turnover as provided above for "new plants" and "expanding plants." A "new plant" is one which is newly established and being operated for the first time, or which has not been operated more than eight months, and in which a substantial number of workers must be trained for operations on products of the plant. "Plant expansion" means expansion by the installation of additional mechanical equipment or other production facilities.

Special certificates may also be issued authorizing the employment of learners on the same terms and conditions in the same occupations to plants operating on Government contract production required by the National Defense Program, to the extent of expanding production needs, which shall be stated in the application.

Such special certificates shall not be issued when it appears that experienced workers are available to the employer within the area from which he customarily draws his supply of labor, or that the issue of a special certificate will create unfair competitive labor cost advantages, or will impair or depress working standards established for experienced workers for work of a like or comparable character in the industry.

## SECTION 522.067 - REVOCATION OF SPECIAL LEARNER CERTIFICATES

- (a) Any special certificate may be canceled if it is found that it is not necessary to prevent a curtailment of opportunities for employment, provided, however, that when experienced workers become available after a certificate has been issued, the certificate may be canceled insofar as future employment is concerned, or may be allowed to continue in effect, upon condition that the employer does not hire additional learners under it until experienced workers are not again available. In the absence of fraud or misrepresentation learners already hired under a special certificate may be retained under the terms of the certificate if the learning period extends beyond the date on which the certificate has been canceled.
- (b) Any special certificate shall be canceled as of the date of issue if it is found that the certificate has been obtained by fraud or misrepresentation, or that learners have been employed thereunder in violation of the terms of the certificate. When a certificate has been obtained by fraud or misrepresentation the employer shall be

liable to the employee for wages established by the Act as if no certificate had issued.

(c) Any special certificate shall be canceled as of the first date of violation if it is found that any of its terms have been violated, and the employer shall be liable to those employed under such certificate, from the date of the violation, for wages established by the Act, as if no certificate had issued.

### SECTION 522.068 - DEFINITIONS OF LEARNER

Only learners may be employed at a subminimum wage under certificates issued. In these regulations the term learner means a person who has not been employed within the previous two years in the Knitted Wear Industry for more than 480 hours in the occupation of machine knitter, or 320 hours in the occupations of machine stitcher or presser, or 240 hours in the occupations of winder, dyeing machine operator, brush machine operator, or dryer operator.

### SECTION 522.069 - DEFINITION OF EXPERIENCED WORKER

An experienced worker for the purpose of these regulations hereby defined is any person who has been employed within the previous two years in the Knitted Wear Industry for more than 480 hours in the occupation of machine knitter, or 320 hours in the occupations of machine stitcher or presser, or 240 hours in the occupations of winder, dyeing machine operator, brush machine operator, or dryer operator.

### SECTION 522.070 - WHEN EXPERIENCED WORKERS ARE AVAILABLE

The terms "available" and "experienced" as used in these regulations shall be construed in the following manner; that experienced workers should be available within the area from which the employer customarily draws his labor supply, or that such workers have in fact made themselves available to the employer at the plant or place of employment, and have signified their readiness to accept and to continue in employment. Such workers should also possess the requisite experience obtained within the preceding two years and also be capable of equaling the performance of a worker of ordinary skill and experience. The merits of particular cases involving availability and the definition of an experienced worker, which present singular or unusual facts and circumstances, will be given due consideration.

### SECTION 522.071 - DEFINITION OF KNITTED WEAR INDUSTRY

The term "Knitted Wear Industry" includes the commercial knitting of fabrics and men's, women's, infants' and children's knitted apparel and accessories except gloves and hosiery as defined by the wage orders for the Knitted Outerwear Industry and the Knitted Underwear and Commercial Knitting Industry (Title 29, Chapter V, Sections 584.4 and 555.4, respectively, Code of Federal Regulations).