



**Tom Barrett**  
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

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February 1, 2013

Dear Business Owner/Manager:

A strong workforce is essential to grow individual businesses and our overall economy. A strong workforce is one of the key drivers of our present and future prosperity. Preparing young people today to be life-long learners, productive workers and engaged citizens tomorrow is something our entire community must support.

That's why in 2005, I launched the Earn & Learn program.

The mission of Earn & Learn is to assist young people from Milwaukee make successful transitions from adolescence to productive adulthood by increasing their work-readiness skills and providing work experience opportunities. A key component of this mission is to put Milwaukee young people to work in private sector jobs.

Over the years, we have placed thousands of Milwaukee youth in private companies. In 2012, more than 1,200 youth were employed by dozens of Milwaukee companies including Palermo's Pizza, WE Energies, Whyte Hirschboek Dudek and others who stepped-up to accomplish the mission of Earn & Learn.

This year the need for private sector job opportunities for our young people is greater than ever. Earn & Learn needs even more employers to provide paid work experiences for work-ready youth. Please consider hiring one or more qualified students for jobs that benefit your company, the students, their families and our community.

You can get started by completing a job order at:  
<https://www.mkedcd.org/EarnLearn/JobOrder.asp>.

For additional details, visit the [Earn & Learn website](#) or contact William Malone at 286-5894 or [william.malone@milwaukee.gov](mailto:william.malone@milwaukee.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Barrett".

Tom Barrett  
MAYOR