



Information about the USE OF MINORS in student films

A **Studio Teacher** is someone who, in addition to being credentialed secondary teacher in the State of California, has also been certified by the Labor commissioner as a Studio Teacher (they have passed a series of tests and are familiar with the laws governing the use of children in films).

As a general rule, a certified Studio Teacher must be “present” during the entire period that a minor under the age of sixteen is working on the set of a film.

A certified Studio Teacher is required to be present for minors ages sixteen to eighteen “when required for the education of the minor”.

In addition, the legal guardian or parent of the minor must be present the entire time the child is on the set. Relatives, neighbors or babysitters are not legal substitutes – even if they have written permission from the parent or legal guardian.

If you are using an infant 15 days to six months of age you must also have a **Nurse** present on the set.

This is the law of the State of California.

All VU students are required to obey the law.

There are **no exceptions**.

A Studio Teacher is responsible, by law, for the health, safety and moral well-being of the child or children working on the film. Accordingly, a Studio Teacher has the absolute discretion to remove a minor from your production if the Studio Teacher feels that the health, safety, and/or moral well-being of the minor(s) may be compromised.

Therefore, the **Studio Teacher is required even when school is not in session**. This includes weekends.

Some Studio Teachers are members of IA Local 884. Other Studio Teachers are not members of a union. The amount of money a Studio Teacher receives for a

day's work varies widely. There is a list of qualified Studio Teachers in the LA 411 reference book.

The work hours of minor are strictly regulated and vigorously enforced.
 The amount of hours a child may work are determined by the age of that child. Extension of these hours is not allowed.

Minors can only be employed for the hours permitted by law.

WORKING HOURSE OF MINORS

| AGES | TIME ON SET | TIME AT WORK | SCHOOL | REST AND RECREATION | TOTAL TIME INCLUDES MEALS |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 15 days thru 6 months | 2 hours | 20 minutes | - | 1 hour 40 minutes | 2.5 hours |
| 6 months thru 2 years | 4 hours | 2 hours | - | 2 hours | 4.5 hours |
| 2 years thru 5 years | 6 hours | 3 hours | - | 3 hours | 6.5 hours |
| 6 years Thru 8 years | 8 hours | 4 hours ----- 6 hours | 3 hours ----- vacation | 1 hour ----- 2 hours | 8.5 hours |
| 9 years thru 15 years | 9 hours | 5 hours ----- 7 hours | 3 hours ----- vacation | 1 hour ----- 2 hours | 9.5 hours |
| 16 years thru 17 years | 10 hours | 6 hours ----- 8 hours | 3 hours ----- vacation | 1 hour ----- 2 hours | 10.5 hours |

Under no circumstances is it permitted for a minor to be at work before 5:00am nor to work past 12:30am.