

## Looking for summer staff? *Employment Ontario can help you*



In early May, Dave Campbell was looking for a student to do some landscaping at his company's restaurants in Ottawa – and he needed someone quickly.

The Eastern Canada regional director for Jack Astor's Bar & Grill didn't hesitate. He picked up the phone and called Steven Boucher, an employment consultant with the [Youth Services Bureau](#) (YSB), of Ottawa, one of dozens of Employment Ontario offices across the province.



He was confident Boucher would have just the right person in his database – and he did.

For the past three years Campbell and the managers at his 40 restaurants across Ontario have been using Employment Ontario, including YSB, to hire summer staff.

The reason?

"It lets us access SJS, an Ontario government program," says Campbell.

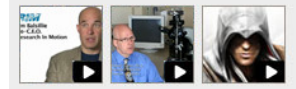
SJS is the Summer Jobs Service. A program of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, it's open to students 15 to 30 who are returning to school in the fall. The students receive free job-search and self-marketing help. The employers get qualified, motivated employees – and a \$2-per-hour-per-student hiring incentive for up to 16 weeks. That's a total of \$700 per eligible student.

*"It's a win-win for both employers and students," says Boucher, who notes that YSB Ottawa alone has 60 employers registered, including retailers, construction and landscaping companies and tourism operators.*

But, with a growing number of students taking advantage of the service – last year more than 700 registered through the SJS program and were placed – they're always on the hunt for more employers to sign on.



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"We're looking to increase the SJS profile with businesses," says Boucher. "The more employers hear about us, the more likely they are to sign on to our program."

Campbell, who sits on the Board of Directors for the Ontario Hotel and Restaurant Association, agrees.

"Many of our members don't know about the program," he says. "And it's not just for large corporations such as ours. Smaller businesses can benefit from it as well.

"The SJS program just makes good business sense, whatever your business."

And what about from the student point of view?

Ann, who got a job doing office administration with Computer Sciences Canada speaks for the majority of young participants.

"I think this opportunity has given me not just some insight but has really shown me what it takes to maintain a job and a possible career. This program is very friendly and I guarantee any youth will benefit greatly from it!"

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