

## Directed Lab/SAE Hours:

In reviewing applications for awards and degrees, applicants sometimes present a completely unrealistic number of hours dedicated to directed lab/SAE. In a single year, a person working a full time 40 hour per week job will work a total 2080 hours (52 weeks X 40 hours = 2,080). In order to assist students and teachers in evaluating students Directed Lab/Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) hours, it is important to consider the hours a student must also dedicate to school, sleep, etc.

### Consider the breakdown of hours for a total year.

Hours Per Year:	365 days a year	X	24	=	8,760 hours
Sleep Hours:	365 days a year	X	8	=	2,920 hours
School Year	180 days a year	X	7	=	1,260 hours (36 week school year)
Vacation	14 days	X	16	=	224 hours
Holidays:	Christmas/New Years	X	4	=	96 hours
Family time/recreation	15 hours per week				780 hours
Homework and study time	5 hrs/wk/36wks				180 hours
Personal care time (meals, bathroom,)	3 hrs/day				1,095 hours

**Total = 2,205 hours remaining in the whole year**

**In addition to the previous list, the following activities also subtract from the time a student could devote to their Directed Lab/SAE in a year.**

FFA Activities Outside of Classroom Time	=
Sports Participation:	=
Extra Curricular Activities:	=

Should an applicant submit an application that claims they have worked in excess of 2093 hours, the application should explain how this large number of hours was achieved while remaining compliant with the "Child Labor Laws". *In no circumstances can the paid or unpaid hours reported per year must not exceed federal or state child labor laws*

Federal – Child Labor Laws			
Age Range	School in Session	School Not in Session	Notes
<b>12-13</b>	Zero hours	8 hours per day  40 hours per week	May be employed <u>only during school holidays and vacations</u> (usually construed to include weekends). May never be employed on any school day/either before, during, or after school.
<b>14-15</b>	3 hours per school day outside of school hours  8 hours on any non-school day  5 hours per day of sports attendant  18 hours per week  WEE (Work Experience Education) students may work during school hours and up to 23 hours per week.	8 hours per day  40 hours per week	

## Federal – Child Labor Laws

Age Range	School in Session	School Not in Session	Notes
<b>16-17</b>	4 hours per day on any school day  8 hours on any non-school day, or on any day preceding a non-school day.  5 hours per day of sports attendant  48 hours per week  WEE (Work Experience Education) students and personal attendants may work more than 4 hours on a school day, but never more than 8.	8 hours per day  48 hours per week	

**Employed by Parent:** The [Fair Labor Standards Act's \(FLSA\)](#) minimum age requirements do not apply to minors employed by their parents, or by a person acting as their guardian. An exception to this occurs in mining, manufacturing and occupations where the minimum age requirement of 18 years old applies. State laws often follow the same pattern as the Fair Labor Standards Act with regard to minors working for their parents. Consult your state department of labor for specific guidance.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- 1) For award and degree purposes, no unpaid or directed lab/SAE hours *dedicated to owning and managing an entrepreneurship/ownership type project are eligible for consideration at the national level.*
- 2) For award and degree purposes all unpaid or directed laboratory/SAE hours must occur *outside the regular scheduled agriculture class.*