



## Especially harmful work

Under Section 3 in the Government Decree on Work Especially Harmful and Hazardous to young Workers (475/2006) the following work has been classified as especially harmful for young workers:

1. work which causes excessive stress, in comparison with the young worker's age and experience, or includes significant responsibility for the young worker's own or other people's safety, significant financial responsibility or specific hazards which young people are unable to recognise or avoid,
2. working alone when the work involves an obvious risk of an accident or violence,
3. caring for and managing psychiatric patients and mentally or socially disturbed people,
4. handling and transporting dead bodies,
5. slaughtering,
6. diving,
7. working in an environment which exposes the young worker to harmful toxic substances, substances that cause cancer, hereditary damage or foetal abnormalities, or substances that can have other permanent effects on a person's health,
8. handling combustible and explosive substances and easily flammable liquids under obviously dangerous circumstances, and
9. working in an environment exposing the young worker to harmful radiation.

A young person is only allowed to do the especially harmful work tasks referred to in the Government Decree if he/she has the required vocational qualification or is in vocational education and performs the work under the guidance and supervision of a teacher. Furthermore, work referred to under 3-5 may be allowed for a young worker who is in vocational education under the guidance and supervision of a teacher, or when the young worker is performing the work referred to above at a workplace in connection with vocational education or apprenticeship training and there is an experienced and professionally competent employee continuously supervising his/her work.

### **Dispensation**

The Occupational safety and health authorities have the right to grant dispensation from the provisions laying down the conditions for especially harmful or hazardous work performed by young persons. The applications for dispensation is handled nationwide by the Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Regional State Administrative Agency of Eastern Finland.