

WORK CENTRAL AB

Seasonal Employment

Timing and Finding Seasonal Work Across the Region

A Career Resource from Work Central AB

Finding Seasonal Work in Central Alberta

Central Alberta's economy has strong seasonal hiring patterns tied to agriculture, tourism, retail, and outdoor recreation. Seasonal work can provide steady income, flexibility, and - in many cases - a path to permanent employment.

1. Common Seasonal Industries

- **Spring/Summer** - agriculture and farm labour, landscaping, construction, tourism, golf courses, summer camps, and lake-community businesses around Sylvan Lake and Gull Lake.
- **Fall** - harvest work, agricultural processing, and retail hiring ahead of the holiday season.
- **Winter** - retail and hospitality during the holidays, snow removal, and winter recreation roles.

2. When to Start Looking

Seasonal hiring often begins well before the season starts. As a general guide:

- Apply for summer roles in late winter to early spring (February–April).
- Apply for harvest and fall roles in mid-to-late summer (July–August).
- Apply for holiday retail roles in early fall (September–October).

3. Where to Look

- Local farms and agribusinesses, many of which hire directly rather than through job boards.
- Municipal recreation departments for seasonal park, camp, and facility roles.
- Retailers and hospitality businesses in tourist-heavy areas as the season approaches.
- The Work Central AB job board, which highlights seasonal postings as they open.

4. Turning Seasonal Work Into Something More

- Treat seasonal roles as a genuine opportunity to prove yourself - many permanent hires start seasonally.
- Ask directly about return opportunities or permanent positions partway through the season.
- Build relationships with supervisors, since many seasonal employers rehire the same reliable workers each year.

Seasonal Job Search Checklist

- ✓ Identified which season(s) fit your availability
- ✓ Researched typical hiring timelines for your target industry
- ✓ Applied directly to local farms, retailers, or recreation departments

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- ✓ Set up alerts on the Work Central AB job board
 - ✓ Asked about return or permanent opportunities once hired
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Keep Your Job Search Moving With Work Central AB

Browse current seasonal openings across the region at workcentralab.ca/jobs.