6 Tips for Hiring Seasonal Employees

Many businesses cycle through slow and busy periods, and in some cases, bringing in additional employees becomes a necessity. Hiring seasonal staff can help take pressure off year-round workers, and help a company keep up with increasing customer demands. Here are six seasonal hiring tips to consider:

1. Begin preparing for seasonal hiring well in advance
2. Use multiple digital channels to hire seasonal employees
3. Consider hiring your customers
4. Ask for employee referrals to fill seasonal positions
5. Host an on-site job fair
6. Connect with past employees for part-time seasonal work

How long should seasonal employment last?
Depending on the nature of a business, the length of seasonal employment may vary. Businesses in popular vacation destinations may have their "in season" period based on summer vacations in northern beach towns, or during the winter months in the south. Retail businesses may only need extra help for a few short weeks or during peak holiday shopping. This means that a business will need to set different timelines for hiring seasonal employees.

Consider full-time positions after the holiday season.
Seasonal hires fill a short-term need, but these hires could also become a pool of potential talent for future open positions. By the end of the season, your business owners may have a better understanding of which people are best suited for a regular position with their company.

Second, be sure to let seasonal employees know that there may be an opportunity for regular employment. It is advisable not to promise it at the beginning to all employees, however, let the great performers know that they may be considered for a regular role as positions open.

As a company grows, keeping up with seasonal hiring may become a challenge. If help is needed with hiring and onboarding seasonal staff, consult with an expert that can assist with a mix of functions, from recruiting to employee screening and training. Often advanced HR services can be used to link a hiring system to payroll and employee benefits, which helps ensure the efficient transfer and storage of all employee-related data.

Our team of HR professionals can offer recommendations and support for recruiting, interviewing, and onboarding new employees. Talk with a Paychex representative to learn more.