



Fort Wayne staffing agency takes part in 'worker sweepstakes' to try and spark hiring movement

By Jeff Neumeyer | July 27, 2021

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (Fort Wayne's NBC) - Local companies and employment agencies are getting creative, finding ways to sweeten the pot in an effort to satisfy a big demand for workers.

Spherion Staffing in Fort Wayne, which has 600 job openings it's trying to fill, is taking part in a two-month nationwide worker sweepstakes, where a shot at earning valuable prizes is being offered to people just for signing up and demonstrating a good work record.

From July 12 through September 13, individuals working for Spherion offices around the country will earn an entry into a drawing for each week they work during the two-month incentive program.

More than 150 prizes are being given away, everything from MacBook Air Laptops, to Apple watches, to big screen TVs.

A local woman who has been carrying out her work assignments with Dunham's Distribution Center on Decatur Road, a company Spherion provides workers for, claimed a 50" flat screen TV Tuesday at a special presentation at her work site.

Statistics show hiring incentives in the country have more than doubled and people doing searches for jobs that involve such incentives are up 134 percent.

Companies that don't boost pay or try to give special consideration to workers in some other way right now probably get left behind.

"We have some companies that are just giving out flat fee incentives, \$100, \$200 for working your full 40 hours. Then we have other companies that are starting you off at one pay rate, but if you work your full 40 hours, they'll bump up your pay by \$1.00 or



\$2.00 an hour, just to continue to get people to consistently come to work," said Molly Pentenburg, Spherion's branch manager in Fort Wayne.

"We've seen a lot of changes in how employers recruit people, especially post-pandemic. They're going to flexible work schedules, 4-day work weeks, many now are offering sign-on bonuses, in some cases they're offering benefits on the first day," said Rick Farrant, the communications director for Northeast Indiana Works.

At the end of this two-month incentive program, workers tied to Spherion nationwide who have been doing their assignments will be eligible for a drawing for a new Ford Mustang sports car.

Link to coverage: <https://bit.ly/2UYqqZp>