

DIVISION OF MINES GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION OF REGULATORY STANDARDS MANUAL	
COAL MINE SAFETY ACT	CHAPTER 14.3
ARTICLE 16	ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF CERTIFIED PERSONS AND OTHER MINERS
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Section 45.1-161.251. A.

**Employment of Inexperienced Underground
Miners**

Workday Requirements for Persons to be Classified as Experienced Miners

The MSA requires that inexperienced underground miners work with an experienced underground miner for at least six months following employment. Six months is to be interpreted as 120 days on the job. This work experience may be in consecutive days or intermittent. The operator must be able to verify through records that the minimum 120 days of work has been established prior to assigning a new miner to work alone.

Experienced surface miners, considered to be miners who have worked at a surface mine or surface area of an underground mine, are required to work 60 days with an experienced underground miner upon transferring to underground work.