CHECKLIST | ONBOARDING

Presented by ToughComp

Onboarding is the process of hiring new employees and integrating them into the organization. An effective onboarding process is essential because it can help employees stay with their organization, both in the short and long term. During this time, the employee completes paperwork, learns company protocols and receives training, tools and other resources to help them perform their duties effectively. When done properly, it can be an excellent opportunity to make a positive first impression on employees and ensure they feel like the company is a good fit. Ultimately, successful onboarding can increase employee attraction and retention.

This checklist is intended as a guide. The onboarding process may differ based on your organization's size and other factors, meaning these steps can and should be modified to meet your organization's unique needs. Due to the complexities of onboarding, employers are encouraged to seek legal counsel if any concerns or questions arise. This checklist can be referenced by a supervisor, manager or HR representative to help ensure critical steps are not missed when onboarding employees.

Before the Employee's First Day	Completed
Send an email welcoming the new employee and providing details about their first day. This email should include information about the employee's start date, time and location. It should also explain the dress code, if applicable. Be sure to highlight any pre-employment tasks that need to be completed.	
Prepare or provide any new-hire paperwork that will need to be completed on or before the employee's first day. The timing of when this paperwork is completed can vary by employer, but generally, new-hire paperwork may include the following:	
Employment Eligibility Verification form (Form I-9)	
Tax forms	
Direct deposit form	
Emergency contact information	
Employee handbook	
Benefits information, if applicable	
• Employee agreements (e.g., nondisclosure, employee handbook acknowledgment, etc.).	
Plan the employee's orientation, initial training and assignments.	
Prepare the employee's workstation and equipment, such as a computer, phone and office supplies. If the employee will be working remotely, provide them with the requisite equipment and supplies, including setup information and instructions.	



Before the Employee's First Day	Completed
Help the employee set up necessary accounts and create logins.	
Add regularly scheduled meetings to the employee's calendar.	
Add the employee to relevant email distribution lists.	
Providing existing employees with relevant information about their new team member—such as the new hire's start date, role and a brief background. Include the new employee, if appropriate.	
Select and meet with the new hire's mentor, if applicable.	
Set up meetings with critical people for the employee's first few weeks, such as their mentor and teammates they will collaborate with frequently.	
Design training materials to help the new hire understand their duties, including any systems and tools they'll need to fulfill their job responsibilities and arrange the pertinent training required for the job.	
Order business cards for the new employee, if necessary.	

The Employee's First Day	Completed
Greet the employee and give them a tour of the office or facility.	
Show the employee their workstation and how to operate their equipment.	
Provide the employee with information to set up their voicemail and computer, including email, other company accounts, and any other required systems.	
Give the employee a security card and/or keys to access the facility, if applicable.	
Introduce the employee to their co-workers and mentor, if applicable.	
Review an outline of their duties, assignments and expectations for the first week and beyond with the employee.	
Provide a welcome package that includes a copy of the employee handbook and review its contents, such as hours of work, lunch and break times, policies for overtime, use of vacation, sick time and holidays. Have the employee sign the handbook acknowledgment if they haven't already done so.	
Provide the employee with a schedule for their first week.	
Explain to the employee how to contact HR or IT support, if applicable.	



If new hire paperwork and related tasks have not yet been completed, ensure that these tasks are taken care of.	
The Employee's First Week	Completed
Schedule training related to company policies and procedures, such as workplace safety, cybersecurity, sexual harassment and diversity.	
Provide the employee with an overview of the company's benefits and insurance options, if applicable.	
Give the employee their initial assignment. Typically, this can be something small and achievable.	
Briefly check in with the employee each day to address any questions or concerns they may have.	
Explain the company's annual performance review and goal-setting process, if applicable.	
Review the process related to the probationary period, if applicable.	
Schedule a check-in meeting with the employee's supervisor or mentor.	
The Employee's First Three Months	Completed
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Allow the employee an opportunity to provide feedback about their onboarding and work experience.	
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The Employee's First Year	Completed
Acknowledge and celebrate the employee's contributions and achievements.	
Continue providing regular informal and formal feedback during the annual review process. Discuss potential goals for the next year and identify relevant learning opportunities.	
Have a conversation with the employee about their experience to date and survey the employee about their onboarding experience.	
Provide ongoing training, when relevant, and continued learning and development opportunities.	

Use this checklist as a guide when establishing, reviewing or improving your organization's onboarding process. For more workplace resources, contact ToughComp.

