

## Toyota's Princeton, Ind. plant looking to add workers | POLL

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At Toyota — as with many Tri-State employers — things have been tough for the past few years.

The Princeton, Ind. hasn't hired any production employees since 2006. In 2007, it let go of about 370 temporary workers. In 2008, the plant shut down production for weeks at a time.

"Things were very bad," said Kelly Dillon, a spokeswoman for the production facility.

But things are looking up for Toyota, which expects to add about 100 new production workers in coming weeks through its staffing agency, Aerotek.

"We're starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Things are more positive here at the plant than they have been the last couple of years," Dillon said.

Earlier this month, Toyota Motor Corp. announced it would transfer some of its Highlander SUV production from Japan to its Princeton plant, upping the number of Highlanders produced in the Tri-State. With the shift, Princeton will make all of the Highlanders for Toyota's North American market.

Toyota is adding the 100 or so jobs to handle the increase in Highlander production, Dillon said.

Dillon described the positions as "variable, temporary" full-time positions that could become permanent if Toyota sees its vehicle demand remain improved. If that were to happen, Dillon said, the workers would move from being Aerotek employees to becoming permanent Toyota employees.

The Aerotek jobs will be full-time positions that offer medical and dental benefits and 401(k) plans, Aerotek says.

Aerotek, a Maryland-based company, is accepting applications only online at [www.aerotekin.com](http://www.aerotekin.com).

“There’s a hiring process that each applicant has to go through,” said Lucas Hiler, national account executive with Aerotek.

Other steps in the hiring process, Hiler said, include a computer-based assessment, an interview, a background check and drug testing.

Applicants should have at least a high-school education, Hiler said, but experience is not necessary.

For questions or more information about the hiring process, contact Aerotek at [tmmi@aerotek.com](mailto:tmmi@aerotek.com).

