

It's the law!

Employers must post this notice where employees can read it.

Wage and Overtime Laws

Workers must be paid the Washington minimum wage

Need to know the current minimum wage?



Scan QR code at left or see "Contact L&I" below.

- Most workers who are 16 years of age or older must be paid at least the minimum wage for all hours worked.
- Workers who are 14 or 15 may be paid 85% of the minimum wage.

Tips cannot be counted as part of the minimum wage.

Overtime pay is due when working more than 40 hours

Most workers must be paid one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a fixed seven-day workweek. Agricultural workers are generally exempt from overtime.

Workers Need Meal and Rest Breaks

Meal period

Most workers are entitled to a 30-minute unpaid meal period if working more than five hours in a day. If you must remain on duty during your meal period, you must be paid for the 30 minutes. Agricultural workers are entitled to a second 30-minute unpaid meal period if they work more than 11 hours in a day.

Breaks

- Most workers are entitled to a 10-minute paid rest break for each four hours worked and must not work more than three hours without a break.
- Agricultural workers must have a 10-minute paid rest break within each four-hour period of work.
- If you are under 18, see "Teen Corner" below.

Pay Requirements

Regular Payday

Workers must be paid at least once a month on a regularly scheduled payday. Your employer must give you a pay statement showing the number of hours worked, rate of pay, number of piece work units (if piece work), gross pay, the pay period and all deductions taken.

For more information regarding authorized deductions, go to www.Lni.wa.gov/WorkplaceRights and click on "Pay Requirements."

Equal Pay Opportunity Act

Under this law, your employer is prohibited from providing unequal pay or career advancement opportunities based on gender. You also have the right to disclose, compare, or discuss your wages or the wages of other employees. Your employer cannot take any adverse action against you for discussing wages, filing a complaint, or exercising other protected rights under the Equal Pay Opportunity Act. For more information or to file a complaint, see: www.Lni.wa.gov/EqualPay.

Teen Corner — Information for Workers Ages 14–17

- The minimum age for work is generally 14, with different rules for ages 14–15 and for ages 16–17.
- Employers must have a minor work permit to employ teens. This requirement applies to family members except on family farms. Teens do not need a work permit.
- Teens are required to have authorization forms signed before they begin working. For summer employment, parents must sign the Parent Authorization for Summer Work form. If you work during the school year, a parent and a school official must sign the Parent/School Authorization form.
- Many jobs are not allowed for anyone under 18 because they are not safe.
- Work hours are limited for teens, with more restrictions on work hours during school weeks.

Meal and rest breaks for teens

- In agricultural work, teens of any age get a meal period of 30 minutes if working more than five hours, and a 10-minute paid break for each four hours worked.
- In all other industries, teens who are 16 or 17 must have a 30-minute meal period if working more than five hours, and a 10-minute paid break for each four hours worked. They must have the rest break at least every three hours.
- Teens who are 14 or 15 must have a 30-minute meal period no later than the end of the fourth hour, and a 10-minute paid break for every two hours worked.

To find out more about teens in the workplace:

- Online www.Lni.wa.gov/TeenWorkers.
- Call toll-free: 1-866-219-7321.
- Email a question to TeenSafety@Lni.wa.gov.

Leave Laws

Paid sick leave (effective January 1, 2018)

Most workers earn a minimum of one hour of paid sick leave for every 40 hours worked. This leave may be used beginning on the 90th calendar day of employment. Employers must provide employees with a statement that includes their accrued, used and available hours of this leave at least once per month. This information may be provided on your regular pay statement or as a separate notification. Workers must be allowed to carry over a minimum of 40 hours of any unused paid sick leave to the following year. For details on authorized use, accrual details, and eligibility, see www.Lni.wa.gov/SickLeave.

Washington Family Care Act: Use of paid leave to care for sick family

Employees are entitled to use their choice of any employer provided paid leave (sick, vacation, certain short-term disability plans, or other paid time off) to care for:

- A child with a health condition requiring treatment or supervision;
- A spouse, parent, parent-in-law, or grandparent with a serious health condition or an emergency health condition; and
- Children 18 years and older with disabilities that make them incapable of self-care.

Washington Family Leave Act:

This act provides additional leave for pregnancy and childbirth. It covers employers with 50 or more employees. Employees must have worked for an employer at least 1,250 hours in the previous 12 months to be eligible. For

more information regarding qualifications and benefits, see www.Lni.wa.gov/WorkplaceRights/LeaveBenefits.

Pregnancy disability leave is covered under the Washington State Law Against Discrimination (WLAD) and enforced by the Washington State Human Rights Commission: www.hum.wa.gov or 1-800-233-3247.

Eligible employees can enforce their right to protected family and medical leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) by contacting the U.S. Department of Labor at: www.dol.gov/whd/fmla or 1-866-487-9243.

Leave for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking

Victims and their family members are allowed to take reasonable leave from work for legal or law enforcement assistance, medical treatment, counseling, relocation, meetings with their crime victim advocate, or to protect their safety. Employers are also required to provide reasonable safety accommodations to victims. For more information, see www.Lni.wa.gov/DomesticViolenceLeave.

Leave for military spouses during deployment

Spouses or registered domestic partners of military personnel who receive notice to deploy or who are on leave from deployment during times of military conflict may take a total of 15 days unpaid leave per deployment.

Your employer may not fire or retaliate against you for exercising your rights under, or filing a complaint alleging violations of, the Minimum Wage Act which includes paid sick leave or any of the protected leave laws.

Paid Family and Medical Leave

Administered by Washington's Employment Security Department

Starting in 2020, Washington will offer paid family and medical leave benefits to workers. This insurance program will be funded by premiums paid by both employees and many employers. Workers will be allowed to take up to 12 weeks, as needed, when they welcome a new child into their family, are struck by a serious illness or injury, need to take care of an ill or ailing relative, and for certain military connected events. As directed by the Legislature, premium assessment started on January 1, 2019 and benefits can be taken starting January 1, 2020. For more information, see: paidleave.wa.gov.

Contact L&I

Need more information?

Questions about filing a worker rights complaint?

Online: www.Lni.wa.gov/WorkplaceRights

Call: 1-866-219-7321, toll-free

Visit: www.Lni.wa.gov/Offices

Email: ESgeneral@Lni.wa.gov

About required workplace posters

Go to www.Lni.wa.gov/RequiredPosters to learn more about workplace posters from L&I and other government

agencies.

Human trafficking is against the law

For victim assistance, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888, or the Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy at 1-800-822-1067.

Upon request, foreign language support and formats for persons with disabilities are available. Call 1-800-547-8367. TDD users, call 360-902-5797. L&I is an equal opportunity employer.

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