

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

\$7.25

 PER HOUR

BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009

- OVERTIME PAY** At least 1½ times your regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.
- CHILD LABOR** An employee must be at least **16** years old to work in most non-farm jobs and at least **18** to work in non-farm jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor.
- Youths **14** and **15** years old may work outside school hours in various non-manufacturing, non-mining, non-hazardous jobs under the following conditions:
- No more than**
- **3** hours on a school day or **18** hours in a school week;
 - **8** hours on a non-school day or **40** hours in a non-school week.
- Also, work may not begin before **7 a.m.** or end after **7 p.m.**, except from June 1 through Labor Day, when evening hours are extended to **9 p.m.** Different rules apply in agricultural employment.
- TIP CREDIT** Employers of “tipped employees” must pay a cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour if they claim a tip credit against their minimum wage obligation. If an employee’s tips combined with the employer’s cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference. Certain other conditions must also be met.
- ENFORCEMENT** The Department of Labor may recover back wages either administratively or through court action, for the employees that have been underpaid in violation of the law. Violations may result in civil or criminal action.
- Employers may be assessed civil money penalties of up to \$1,100 for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law and up to \$11,000 for each employee who is the subject of a violation of the Act’s child labor provisions. In addition, a civil money penalty of up to \$50,000 may be assessed for each child labor violation that causes the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled, up to \$100,000, when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits discriminating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the Act.
- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
- Certain occupations and establishments are exempt from the minimum wage and/or overtime pay provisions.
 - Special provisions apply to workers in American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
 - Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
 - The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.
 - Employees under 20 years of age may be paid \$4.25 per hour during their first 90 consecutive calendar days of employment with an employer.
 - Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special certificates issued by the Department of Labor.



For additional information:

1-866-4-USWAGE

(1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627



WWW.WAGEHOUR.DOL.GOV

U.S. Department of Labor | Wage and Hour Division

WHD Publication 1088 (Revised July 2009)

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AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYEES

MINIMUM WAGE The Fair Labor Standards Act requires the payment of the minimum wage listed above if you perform covered work for an employer who used more than 500 man-days of farm labor in any calendar quarter of the preceding year. A man-day means any day when an employee (except for a member of the employer's immediate family) does agricultural work for at least one hour.

Note: Under specific exemptions in the law, employers do not have to pay the minimum wage to the following:

- Members of the employer's immediate family;
- Local hand-harvest workers who are paid on a piece-rate basis and who worked fewer than 13 weeks in agriculture during the preceding calendar year;
- Migrant hand-harvest workers **16** and younger who are employed on the same farm as their parents and who receive the same piece rates as employees older than **16** working on the same farm;
- Workers mainly engaged in the range production of livestock.

CHILD LABOR At age **16**, you may work at any time in any farm job, including those declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor. At age **14**, you may work in nonhazardous farm jobs outside school hours. Minors **12** and **13** years old may work outside school hours with written parental consent or on farms where a parent of the minor is employed, and those under **12** may work with parental consent outside school hours on farms not subject to the minimum wage. Although the FLSA authorizes the Secretary of Labor to issue waivers that would, under specified conditions, permit the employment of local minors **10** and **11** years of age to work outside school hours in the hand harvesting of crops, the Department of Labor has been enjoined from issuing such waivers since 1980.

ENFORCEMENT The Department of Labor may recover back wages either administratively or through court action for the employees that have been underpaid in violation of the law. Violations may result in civil or criminal action.

Employers may be assessed civil money penalties of up to \$1,100 for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law and up to \$11,000 for each employee who is the subject of a violation of the Act's child labor provisions. In addition, a civil money penalty of up to \$50,000 may be assessed for each child labor violation that causes the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled, up to \$100,000, when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits discriminating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the Act.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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- Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special certificates issued by the Department of the Labor.
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