

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

\$7.25

 PER HOUR

BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009

The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.

OVERTIME PAY At least 1½ times the 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 with certain work hours restrictions. Different rules apply in agricultural employment.

TIP CREDIT Employers of “tipped employees” who meet certain conditions may claim a partial wage credit based on tips received by their employees. Employers must pay tipped employees 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.

NURSING MOTHERS The FLSA requires employers to provide reasonable break time for a nursing mother employee who is subject to the FLSA’s overtime requirements in order for the employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for one year after the child’s birth each time such employee has a need to express breast milk. Employers are also required to provide a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by the employee to express breast milk.

ENFORCEMENT The Department has authority to recover back wages and an equal amount in liquidated damages in instances of minimum wage, overtime, and other violations. The Department may litigate and/or recommend criminal prosecution. Employers may be assessed civil money penalties for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law. Civil money penalties may also be assessed for violations of the FLSA’s child labor provisions. Heightened civil money penalties may be assessed for each child labor violation that results in the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits retaliating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the FLSA.

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, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
- Some employers incorrectly classify workers as “independent contractors” when they are actually employees under the FLSA. It is important to know the difference between the two because employees (unless exempt) are entitled to the FLSA’s minimum wage and overtime pay protections and correctly classified independent contractors are not.
- 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.



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

1-866-487-9243
TTY: 1-877-889-5627
www.dol.gov/whd



DERECHOS DE LOS TRABAJADORES

BAJO LA LEY DE NORMAS JUSTAS DE TRABAJO (FLSA—siglas en inglés)

SALARIO MÍNIMO FEDERAL

\$7.25

POR HORA

A PARTIR DEL 24 DE JULIO DE 2009

La ley exige que los empleadores exhiban este cartel donde sea visible por los empleados.

PAGO POR SOBRETIENTO

Por lo menos tiempo y medio (1½) de la tasa regular de pago por todas las horas trabajadas en exceso de 40 en una semana laboral.

TRABAJO DE MENORES DE EDAD

El empleado tiene que tener por lo menos 16 años para trabajar en la mayoría de los trabajos no agrícolas y por lo menos 18 años para trabajar en los trabajos no agrícolas declarados peligrosos por la Secretaría de Trabajo. Los menores de 14 y 15 años pueden trabajar fuera del horario escolar en varias ocupaciones que no sean de manufactura, de minería, y que no sean peligrosas con ciertas restricciones al horario de trabajo. Se aplican distintos reglamentos al empleo agrícola.

CRÉDITO POR PROPINAS

Los empleadores de “empleados que reciben propinas” que cumplan con ciertas condiciones, pueden reclamar un crédito de salario parcial basado en las propinas recibidas por sus empleados. Los empleadores les tienen que pagar a los empleados que reciben propinas un salario en efectivo de por lo menos \$2.13 por hora si ellos reclaman un crédito de propinas contra su obligación de pagar el salario mínimo. Si las propinas recibidas por el empleado combinadas con el salario en efectivo de por lo menos \$2.13 por hora del empleador no equivalen al salario mínimo por hora, el empleador tiene que compensar la diferencia.

MADRES LACTANTES

La FLSA exige que los empleadores le proporcionen un tiempo de descanso razonable a la empleada que sea madre lactante y que esté sujeta a los requisitos de sobretiempo de la FLSA, para que la empleada se extraiga leche manualmente para su niño lactante por un año después del nacimiento del niño, cada vez que dicha empleada tenga la necesidad de extraerse leche. A los empleadores también se les exige que proporcionen un lugar, que no sea un baño, protegido de la vista de los demás y libre de la intrusión de los compañeros de trabajo y del público, el cual pueda ser utilizado por la empleada para extraerse leche.

CUMPLIMIENTO

El Departamento tiene la autoridad de recuperar salarios retroactivos y una cantidad igual en daños y perjuicios en casos de incumplimientos con el salario mínimo, sobretiempo y otros incumplimientos. El Departamento puede litigar y/o recomendar un enjuiciamiento criminal. A los empleadores se les pueden imponer sanciones pecuniarias civiles por cada incumplimiento deliberado o repetido de las disposiciones de la ley del pago del salario mínimo o de sobretiempo. También se pueden imponer sanciones pecuniarias civiles por incumplimiento con las disposiciones de la FLSA sobre el trabajo de menores de edad. Además, se pueden imponer sanciones pecuniarias civiles incrementadas por cada incumplimiento con el trabajo de menores que resulte en la muerte o una lesión seria de un empleado menor de edad, y tales evaluaciones pueden duplicarse cuando se determina que los incumplimientos fueron deliberados o repetidos. La ley también prohíbe tomar represalias o despedir a los trabajadores que presenten una queja o que participen en cualquier proceso bajo la FLSA.

INFORMACIÓN ADICIONAL

- Ciertas ocupaciones y ciertos establecimientos están exentos de las disposiciones del salario mínimo, y/o de las disposiciones del pago de sobretiempo.
- Se aplican disposiciones especiales a trabajadores de Samoa Americana, del Estado Libre Asociado de las Islas Marianas del Norte y del Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico.
- Algunas leyes estatales proporcionan protecciones más amplias a los trabajadores; los empleadores tienen que cumplir con ambas.
- Algunos empleadores clasifican incorrectamente a sus trabajadores como “contratistas independientes” cuando en realidad son empleados según la FLSA. Es importante conocer la diferencia entre los dos porque los empleados (a menos que estén exentos) tienen derecho a las protecciones del salario mínimo y del pago de sobretiempo bajo la FLSA y los contratistas correctamente clasificados como independientes no lo tienen.
- A ciertos estudiantes de tiempo completo, estudiantes alumnos, aprendices, y trabajadores con discapacidades se les puede pagar menos que el salario mínimo bajo certificados especiales expedidos por el Departamento de Trabajo.



DIVISIÓN DE HORAS Y SALARIOS
DEPARTAMENTO DE TRABAJO DE LOS EE.UU.

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STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

OVERTIME PAY

At least 1½ times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

Law enforcement and fire protection personnel: You may be paid overtime on the basis of a “work period” of between 7 and 28 consecutive days in length, rather than on a 40-hour workweek basis.

COMPENSATORY TIME

Employees may receive compensatory time off instead of cash overtime pay, at a rate of not less than 1½ hours for each overtime hour worked, where provided pursuant to an agreement or understanding that meets the requirements of the Act.

EXEMPTIONS

The Act does not apply to persons who are not subject to the civil service laws of State or local governments and who are: elected public officials, certain immediate advisors to such officials, certain individuals appointed or selected by such officials to serve in various capacities, or employees of legislative branches of State and local governments. Employees of legislative libraries do not come within this exclusion and are thus covered by the Act.

Certain types of workers are exempt from the minimum wage and overtime pay provisions, including bona fide executive, administrative, and professional employees who meet regulatory requirements.

Any law enforcement or fire protection employee who in any workweek is employed by a public agency employing less than 5 employees in law enforcement or fire protection activities is exempt from the overtime pay provisions.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

16 years old is the minimum age for most occupations. An 18-year old minimum applies to hazardous occupations. Minors 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours under certain conditions. For more information, visit the YouthRules! Web site at www.youthrules.dol.gov.

ENFORCEMENT

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
- Employees under 20 years of age may be paid a youth minimum wage of not less than \$4.25 an hour during their first 90 consecutive calendar days after initial employment by an employer.
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