

Wage and Hour Law Abstract

N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a et seq.



Statutory Minimum Wage Rate

Employees are to be paid not less than the New Jersey minimum wage in accordance with the schedule below.

Date	Most Employers	Seasonal & Small Employers (fewer than 6)	Agricultural Employers	Cash Wage for Tipped Workers	Long-Term Care Facility Direct Care Staff
1-1-2021	\$12	\$11.10	\$10.30	\$4.13	\$15
1-1-2022	\$13	\$11.90	\$11.05	\$5.13	\$16
1-1-2023	\$14.13	\$12.93	\$12.01	\$5.26	\$17.13
1-1-2024*	\$15.13	\$13.73	\$12.81	\$5.26	\$18.13

* The minimum wage rates for 2024 will be at least the amounts listed above, but could be higher based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Overtime

Overtime is payable at the rate of 1.5 times the employee's regular hourly rate for hours worked in excess of 40 in any week except where otherwise specifically provided by wage order.

Exempt from the overtime entitlement are:

- executive, administrative, and professional employees
- employees engaged in labor on a farm or relative to raising or care of livestock; and
- limousine drivers.

Wage Order and Regulations

Employees in the occupations found below are covered by this wage order and regulations and must be paid not less than the statutory minimum wage rate.

- First processing of farm products
- Hotel and motel
- Food service (restaurant industry)
- Seasonal amusement

These regulations are contained in N.J.A.C. 12:56-11.1 et seq.

Exemptions

Exempt from the statutory minimum wage rate are full-time students employed by the college or university at which they are enrolled at not less than 85% of the effective minimum wage rate; outside sales persons; sales persons of motor vehicles; part time employees primarily engaged in the care and tending of children in the home of the employer; and minors under 18 (**except** that minors under 18 in the first processing of farm products, hotels, motels, restaurants, retail, beauty culture, laundry, cleaning, dyeing, light manufacturing and apparel occupations are covered by the wage order rates as above and vocational school graduates with special permits under the Child Labor Law are covered by the statutory rate).

Employees at summer camps, conferences and retreats operated by any nonprofit or religious corporation or association are exempt from minimum and overtime rates during the months of June, July, August and September.

Labor on a Farm at Piece-Rate

Employees engaged on a piece-rate basis to labor on a farm shall be paid for each day worked not less than the minimum hourly wage rate multiplied by the total number of hours worked.

Penalties

Any employer who violates any provisions of this act shall be guilty of a disorderly persons violation and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000.

As an alternative to or in addition to any other sanctions provided by law for violations, the Commissioner is authorized to assess and collect administrative penalties, up to a maximum of \$250 for a first violation and up to a maximum of \$500 for each subsequent violation.

The employer shall also pay the Commissioner an administrative fee equal to not less than 10% or more than 25% of any payment due to employees.

Penalties for violation of this order are set forth in N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a22.

Enforced by: Wage & Hour Division and Contract Compliance
New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development
PO Box 389 • Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0389

This and other required employer posters are available free online at nj.gov/labor.