

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Amends General
Minimum Wage
Order and IWC
Industry and
Occupation Orders



California Minimum Wage

MW-2026

Every employer, regardless of the number of employees, shall pay to each employee wages not less than the following:

Effective January 1, 2026, Minimum Wage: \$16.90 per hour *See Sec. 2 below

PREVIOUS YEARS

Effective January 1, 2025, Minimum Wage: \$16.50 per hour

Effective January 1, 2024, Minimum Wage: \$16.00 per hour

Effective January 1, 2023, Minimum Wage: \$15.50 per hour

*Employees treated as employed by a single qualified taxpayer pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 23626 are treated as employees of that single taxpayer. To employers and representatives of persons working in industries and occupations in the State of California:

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

TAKE NOTICE that on April 4, 2016, the Governor of California signed legislation passed by the California Legislature, raising the minimum wage for all industries. (SB 3, Stats. of 2016, amending section 1182.12. of the California Labor Code.) and, in 2023, raised the minimum wage payable by certain Fast Food Restaurant employers (AB 1228, Stats. 2023) and Healthcare Facility employers (SB 525, Stats. 2023; SB 828, Stats. 2024; and SB 159, Stats. 2024). Pursuant to its authority under Labor Code section 1182.13, the Department of Industrial Relations amends and republishes Sections 2, 3, and 5 of the General Minimum Wage Order, MW-2026. Section 1, Applicability, and Section 4, Separability, have not been changed. Consistent with these enactments, amendments are made to the minimum wage, and the meals and lodging credits sections of all of the IWC's industry and occupation orders.

This summary must be made available to employees in accordance with the IWC's wage orders. Copies of the full text of the amended wage orders may be obtained by downloading online at <https://www.dir.ca.gov/iwc/WageOrderIndustries.htm> or by contacting your local Division of Labor Standards Enforcement office.

1. APPLICABILITY

The provisions of this Order shall not apply to outside salespersons and individuals who are the parent, spouse, or children of the employer previously contained in this Order and the IWC's industry and occupation orders. Exceptions and modifications provided by statute or in Section 1, Applicability, and in other sections of the IWC's industry and occupation orders may be used where such provisions are enforceable and applicable to the employer.

2. MINIMUM WAGES

Every employer shall pay to each employee wages not less than those stated above, on each effective date, per hour for all hours worked, except the following who shall pay no less than the specified minimum wage to each employee: Fast Food Restaurant employers under Part 4.5.5, of Division 2 of the Labor Code (commencing with Labor Code section 1474), effective April 1, 2024; and Healthcare Facility employers under Labor Code section 1182.14, effective October 16, 2024. Note: Supplements to this order containing minimum wage rates applicable for Fast Food Restaurant and Healthcare Facility employees, respectively, are available online at the website address in the Summary of Actions above.

3. MEALS AND LODGING CREDITS - TABLE

Meals or lodging may not be credited against the minimum wage without a voluntary written agreement between the employer and the employee. When credit for meals or lodging is used to meet part of the employer's minimum wage obligation, the amounts so credited pursuant to a voluntary written agreement may not be more than the following:

EFFECTIVE:	JANUARY 1, 2023	JANUARY 1, 2024	JANUARY 1, 2025	JANUARY 1, 2026
	For All Employers regardless of the number of Employees:			
LODGING				
Room occupied alone	\$72.88/week	\$75.23/week	\$77.58/week	\$79.46/week
Room shared	\$60.16/week	\$62.10/week	\$64.04/week	\$65.59/week
Apartment – two thirds (2/3) of the ordinary rental value, and in no event more than:	\$875.33/month	\$903.60/month	\$931.88/month	\$954.43/month
Where a couple are both employed by the employer, two thirds (2/3) of the ordinary rental value, and in no event more than:	\$1,294.83/month	\$1,336.65/month	\$1,378.49/month	\$1,411.85/month
MEALS				
Breakfast	\$5.60	\$5.78	\$5.96	\$6.10
Lunch	\$7.72	\$7.97	\$8.22	\$8.42
Dinner	\$10.35	\$10.68	\$11.01	\$11.28

4. SEPARABILITY

If the application of any provision of this Order, or any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, word or portion of this Order should be held invalid, unconstitutional, unauthorized, or prohibited by statute, the remaining provisions thereof shall not be affected thereby, but shall continue to be given full force and effect as if the part so held invalid or unconstitutional had not been included herein.

5. AMENDED PROVISIONS

This Order amends the minimum wage and meals and lodging credits in MW-2025, as well as in the IWC's industry and occupation orders. (See Orders 1-15, Secs. 4 and 10; and Order 16, Secs. 4 and 9.) This Order makes no other changes to the IWC's industry and occupation orders.

These Amendments to the Wage Orders shall be in effect as of January 1, 2026.

Questions about enforcement should be directed to the Labor Commissioner's Office. For the address and telephone number of the office nearest you, information can be found on the internet at www.dir.ca.gov/DLSE/dlse.html or under a search for "California Labor Commissioner's Office" on the internet or any other directory. The Labor Commissioner has offices in the following cities: Bakersfield, El Centro, Fresno, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Redding, Sacramento, Salinas, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Ana, Santa Barbara, Santa Rosa, Stockton, and Van Nuys.